SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
MAY - JUNE
NO. 33
10¢
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BIG TOWN
ONE TOUCH OF MY WAND -- AND STEVE WILSON WILL INSTANTLY DISAPPEAR!
NOW TO SEE IF THE MAGICIAN'S HAND IS QUICKER THAN THE CAMERA'S EYE!
MR. PRESTO MASTER MAGICIA

DO YOU WANT SPENDING MONEY?

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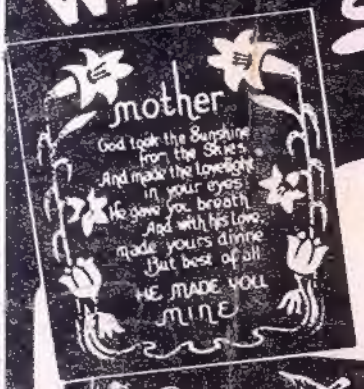

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BIG TOWN

TRADE TRUFLEX
TRUFLEX
QUINTAR
TRUFLEX, INCORPORATED, IN BIG TOWN
NO 1762249 3693 L8
NOW TO SEE IF A MAGICIAN'S HAND IS QUICKER THAN A CAMERA'S EYE!

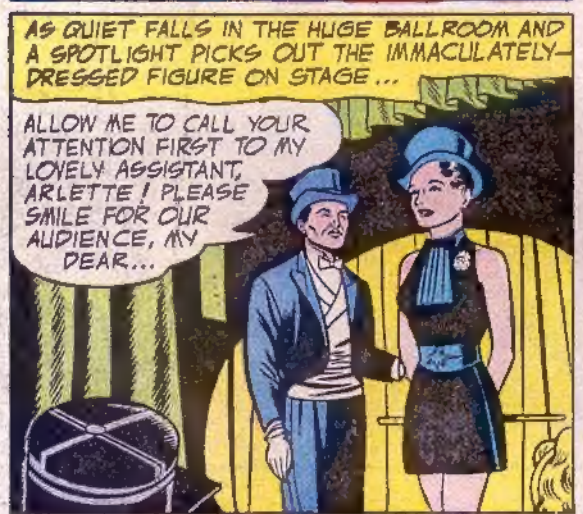
THE HIGHLIGHT OF *MR. PRESTO'S* MAGIC ACT OCCURRED WHEN THE MAGICIAN MADE A VOLUNTEER DISAPPEAR IN FULL VIEW OF HIS AUDIENCE--AND RE-APPEAR A FEW SECONDS LATER IN A LOCKED CABINET SUSPENDED ABOVE THE STAGE!
OBVIOUSLY, THE DISAPPEARING ACT WAS ONLY A STUNT--UNTIL ONE VOLUNTEER REALLY DISAPPEARED AND NOT A TRACE OF HIM COULD BE FOUND *ANYWHERE!*
THAT BROUGHT IN THE POLICE--AND STEVE WILSON OF THE *ILLUSTRATED PRESS*--TO INVESTIGATE THE STRANGE CASE OF...

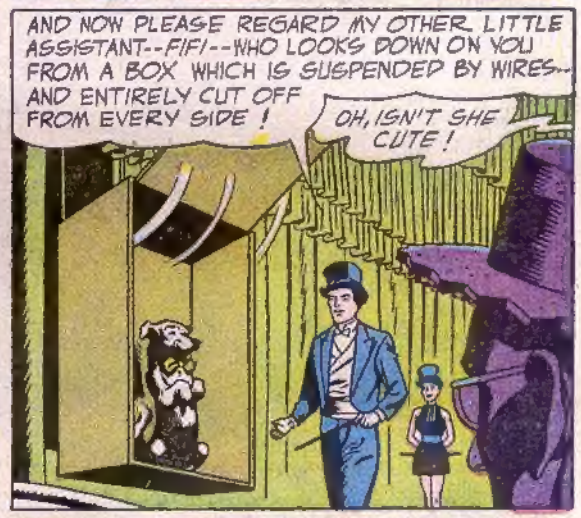
The AMAZING MR. PRESTO!

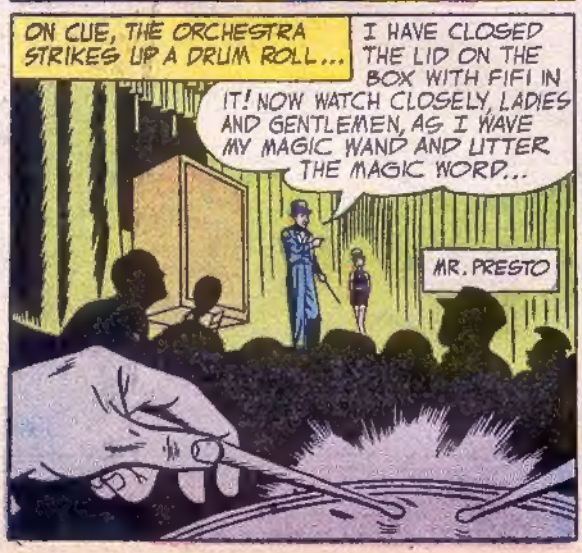
BIG TOWN, No. 33, May-June, 1955. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and DICKEY STREETS, SPARTA, ILL. Editorial and Executive offices, 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. Entire contents copyrighted 1955 by National Comics Publications, Inc. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.
Printed in U.S.A.

AT THE ANNUAL PRESS CLUB BALL IN BIG TOWN.
ARE YOU HAVING A GOOD TIME, LORELEI?
WONDERFUL, STEVE! THIS IS ONE NIGHT WHEN WE NEWSPAPER PEOPLE DON'T LOOK FOR NEWS--WE MAKE IT!
PR
BALL

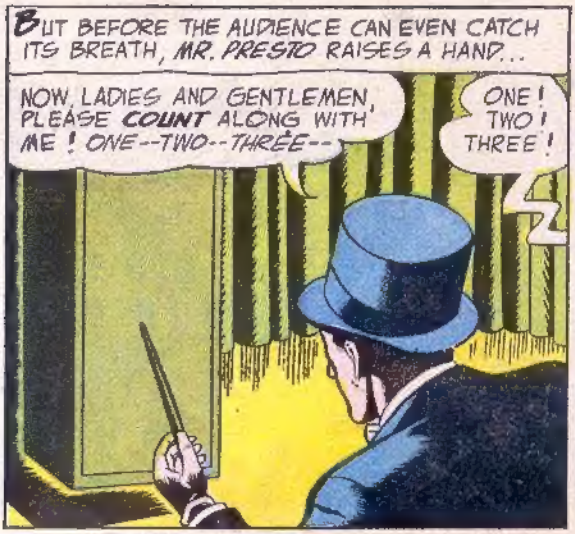
THAT'S RIGHT, LORRY! THEY SAY ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN AT A PRESS CLUB BALL! BUT HERE'S THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING--MR. PRESTO--AND HIS FAMOUS MAGIC ACT!

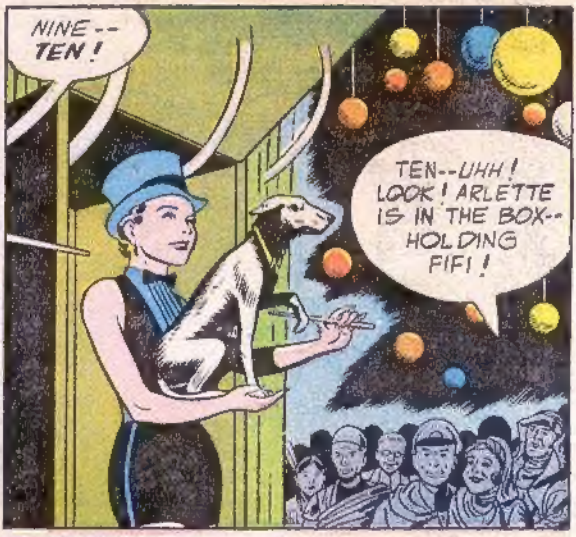

AS QUIET FALLS IN THE HUGE BALLROOM AND A SPOTLIGHT PICKS OUT THE IMMACULATELY-DRESSED FIGURE ON STAGE...
ALLOW ME TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION FIRST TO MY LOVELY ASSISTANT, ARLETTE! PLEASE SMILE FOR OUR AUDIENCE, MY DEAR...


AND NOW PLEASE REGARD MY OTHER LITTLE ASSISTANT--FIFI--WHO LOOKS DOWN ON YOU FROM A BOX WHICH IS SUSPENDED BY WIRES--AND ENTIRELY CUT OFF FROM EVERY SIDE!
OH, ISN'T SHE CUTE!

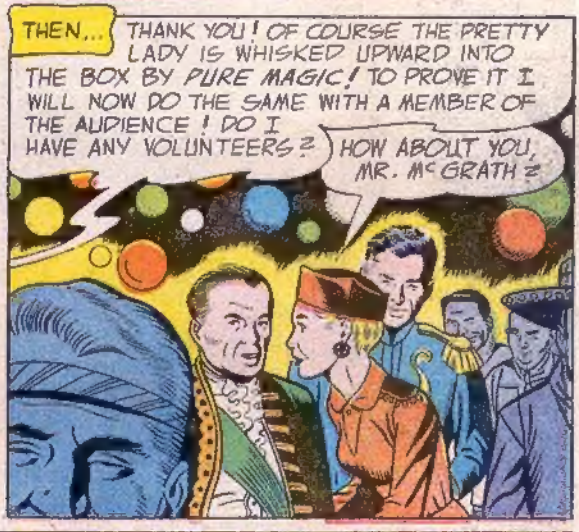

ON CUE, THE ORCHESTRA STRIKES UP A DRUM ROLL...
I HAVE CLOSED THE LID ON THE BOX WITH FIFI IN IT! NOW WATCH CLOSELY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AS I WAVE MY MAGIC WAND AND UTTER THE MAGIC WORD...
MR. PRESTO

PRESTO!
GOSH, STEVE--ARLETTE'S GONE--DISAPPEARED--RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES!
CLICK!


BUT BEFORE THE AUDIENCE CAN EVEN CATCH ITS BREATH, MR. PRESTO RAISES A HAND...
NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE COUNT ALONG WITH ME! ONE--TWO--THREE--
ONE! TWO! THREE!

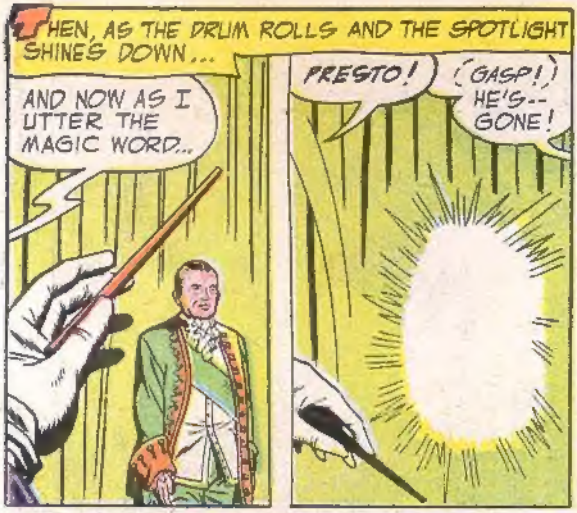

NINE--TEN!
TEN--UHH! LOOK! ARLETTE IS IN THE BOX--HOLDING FIFI!

ISN'T MR. PRESTO AMAZING, MR. McGRATH?
HE SURE IS, STEVE! AND WHAT'S MORE--I HAVEN'T THE VAGUEST IDEA HOW HE DOES THAT TRICK!

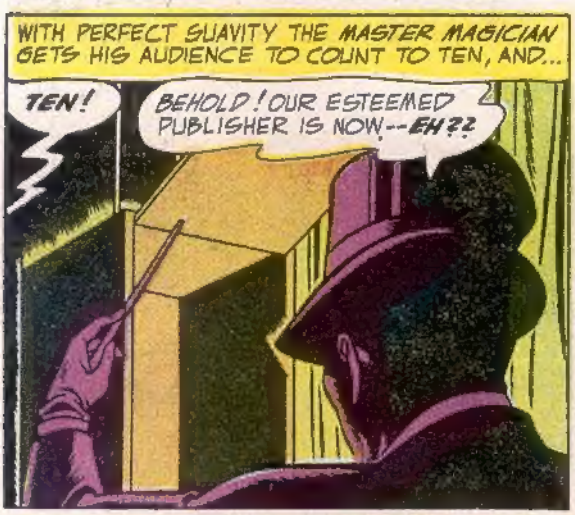

THEN... THANK YOU! OF COURSE THE PRETTY LADY IS WHISKED UPWARD INTO THE BOX BY PURE MAGIC! TO PROVE IT I WILL NOW DO THE SAME WITH A MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE! DO I HAVE ANY VOLUNTEERS?
HOW ABOUT YOU, MR. McGRATH?

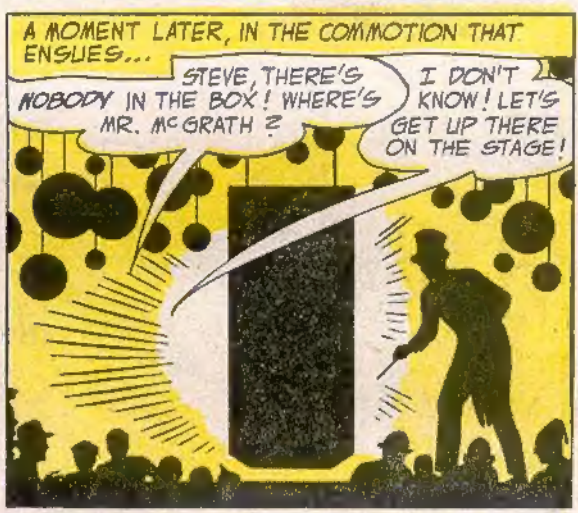
WHAT? YOU MEAN I SHOULD VOLUNTEER?
WHY NOT, MR. McGRATH? THIS IS YOUR FIRST APPEARANCE AT A PRESS CLUB BALL! YOU'RE A LOGICAL CANDIDATE! RIGHT, STEVE?

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE GOOD-NATURED PUBLISHER OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS COMPLIES WITH THE WISHES OF HIS EMPLOYEES...
MR. McGRATH IS A GOOD SPORT, ISN'T HE, STEVE?
YES--BUT I WONDER WHAT MR. PRESTO IS WHISPERING TO HIM ABOUT?


THEN, AS THE DRUM ROLLS AND THE SPOTLIGHT SHINES DOWN...
AND NOW AS I UTTER THE MAGIC WORD..
PRESTO!
(GASP!) HE'S-- GONE!

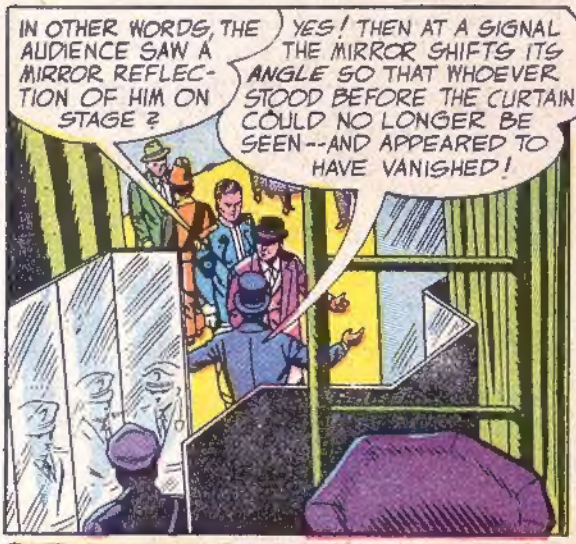
MR. PRESTO'S SENSATIONAL! BUT THAT CAMERAMAN KEEPS TAKING FLASH PICTURES OF THE STUNT! I WONDER WHY?
I'VE GOT AN IDEA ABOUT THAT, LORRY! TELL YOU LATER...

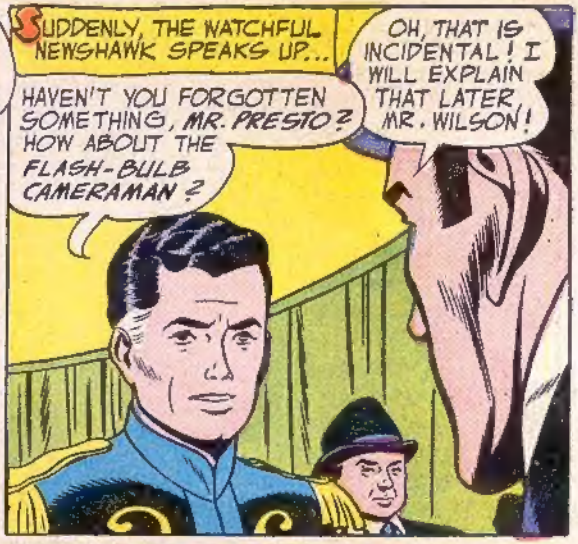

WITH PERFECT SUAVITY THE MASTER MAGICIAN GETS HIS AUDIENCE TO COUNT TO TEN, AND...
TEN!
BEHOLD! OUR ESTEEMED PUBLISHER IS NOW--EH??

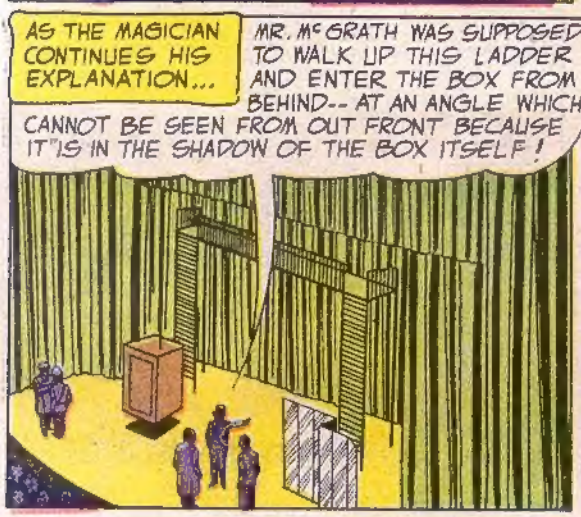

A MOMENT LATER, IN THE COMMOTION THAT ENSUES...
STEVE, THERE'S NOBODY IN THE BOX! WHERE'S MR. McGRATH?
I DON'T KNOW! LET'S GET UP THERE ON THE STAGE!

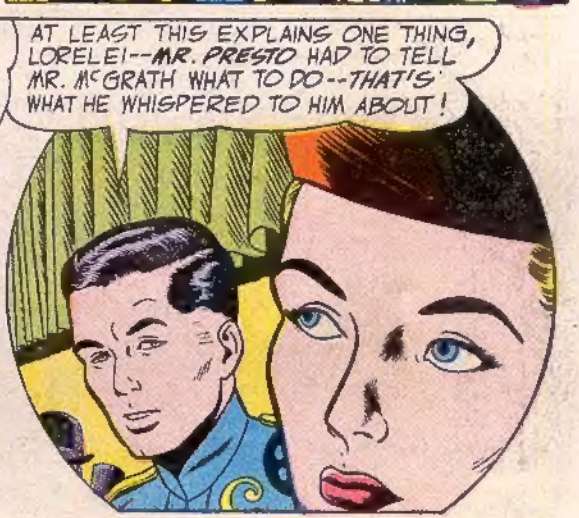
SHORTLY, AFTER A VAIN SEARCH HAS BEEN MADE...
I--I CAN'T UNDERSTAND! MR. McGRATH HAS COMPLETELY DISAPPEARED! THERE IS NO TRACE OF HIM!
LORELEI, I'M GOING TO CALL LIEUTENANT GREGGORY! THIS IS A MATTER FOR THE POLICE!

NOT LONG AFTERWARD, UNDER POLICE QUESTIONING, MR. PRESTO EXPLAINS HIS TRICK...
THEN YOU WORK YOUR STUNT WITH MIRRORS...
THAT'S RIGHT, LIEUTENANT! MR. McGRATH ACTUALLY STOOD IN THE WINGS--BUT TO THE AUDIENCE HE SEEMED TO BE STANDING FACING THEM HERE ON STAGE.


IN OTHER WORDS, THE AUDIENCE SAW A MIRROR REFLECTION OF HIM ON STAGE?
YES! THEN AT A SIGNAL THE MIRROR SHIFTS ITS ANGLE SO THAT WHOEVER STOOD BEFORE THE CURTAIN COULD NO LONGER BE SEEN--AND APPEARED TO HAVE VANISHED!


SUDDENLY, THE WATCHFUL NEWSHAWK SPEAKS UP...
HAVEN'T YOU FORGOTTEN SOMETHING, MR. PRESTO? HOW ABOUT THE FLASH-BULB CAMERAMAN?
OH, THAT IS INCIDENTAL! I WILL EXPLAIN THAT LATER, MR. WILSON!


AS THE MAGICIAN CONTINUES HIS EXPLANATION...
MR. McGRATH WAS SUPPOSED TO WALK UP THIS LADDER AND ENTER THE BOX FROM BEHIND-- AT AN ANGLE WHICH CANNOT BE SEEN FROM OUT FRONT BECAUSE IT IS IN THE SHADOW OF THE BOX ITSELF!

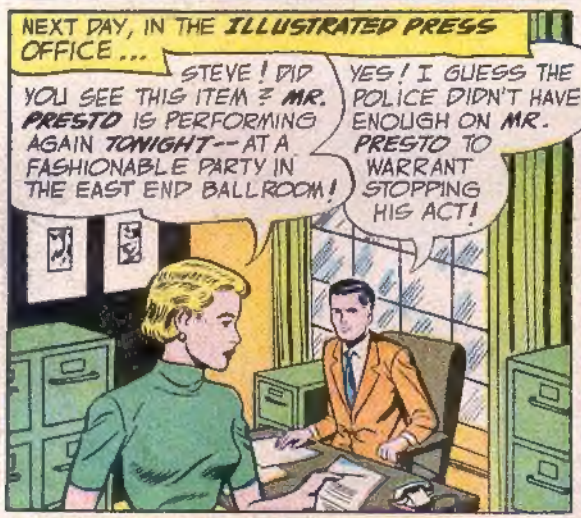

AT LEAST THIS EXPLAINS ONE THING, LORELEI--MR. PRESTO HAD TO TELL MR. McGRATH WHAT TO DO--THAT'S WHAT HE WHISPERED TO HIM ABOUT!

LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
MR. PRESTO, WE'RE NOT GOING TO PUT YOU UNDER ARREST NOW--BUT DON'T LEAVE BIG TOWN!
ALL RIGHT, BUT I'M INNOCENT, LIEUTENANT!

I--I'VE DONE NOTHING WRONG!
GET IT ALL DOWN, LORRY! YOU'RE TAKING NOTES FOR THE LEAD STORY IN TOMORROW'S ILLUSTRATED PRESS!

LATER, AFTER LORELEI HAS LEFT, STEVE PROPOSES A DARING PLAN TO LT. GREGGORY..
YOUR IDEA IS A POSSIBILITY, STEVE! BUT YOU REALIZE THE RISKS IF YOU GO THROUGH WITH IT...
I KNOW! AND I'M WILLING TO TAKE THE CHANCE, LIEUTENANT...

...IN ORDER TO HELP FIND MR. Mc GRATH!
OKAY, THEN WE'LL START THE BALL ROLLING AT ONCE! I'LL INFORM MR. PRESTO WHAT HE HAS TO DO--WHILE YOU GO AHEAD WITH YOUR PART OF THE PLAN!


NEXT DAY, IN THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS OFFICE...
STEVE! DID YOU SEE THIS ITEM? MR. PRESTO IS PERFORMING AGAIN TONIGHT--AT A FASHIONABLE PARTY IN THE EAST END BALLROOM!
YES! I GUESS THE POLICE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH ON MR. PRESTO TO WARRANT STOPPING HIS ACT!

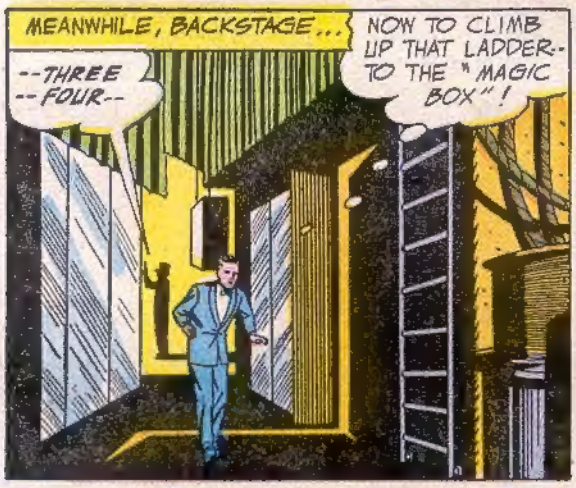
BUT ISN'T THERE A DANGER, STEVE--THAT SOMEONE ELSE MAY VANISH OR DISAPPEAR LIKE MR. Mc GRATH?
I SUPPOSE SOMEONE MIGHT, LORELEI--THERE'S ALWAYS THAT CHANCE! THAT'S WHY WE BETTER COVER TONIGHT'S AFFAIR!

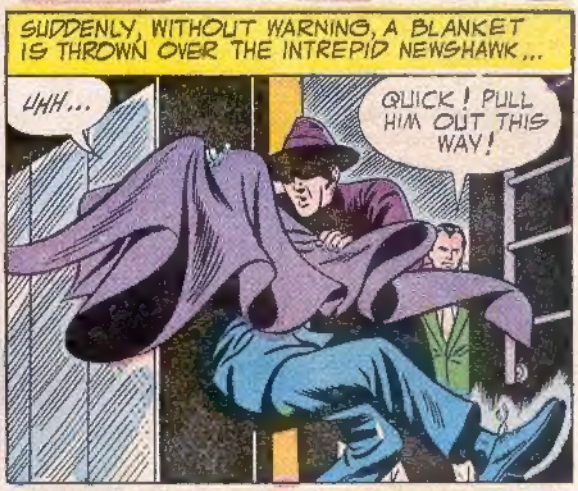
THAT NIGHT AT THE ULTRA-FASHIONABLE PARTY...
--AND I WILL PROVE THAT I USE ONLY PURE MAGIC IF A VOLUNTEER FROM THIS AUDIENCE WILL KINDLY STEP FORWARD...
HOW ABOUT ME, MR. PRESTO? WILL I DO?

MR. STEVE WILSON! SIR, IT WILL BE AN HONOR TO HAVE YOU COOPERATE...
WHAT IS STEVE UP TO?

MOMENTS AFTER...
ONE TOUCH OF MY WAND AND STEVE WILSON WILL INSTANTLY DISAPPEAR!
WE'LL SEE NOW WHETHER MR. PRESTO'S HAND IS QUICKER THAN THE CAMERA'S EYE!

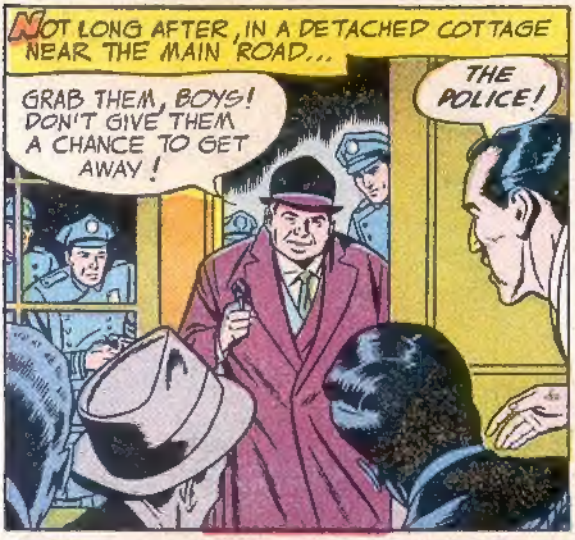
A SPLIT-SECOND LATER...
GONE!
STEVE--!
NOW, IF YOU PLEASE -- WE WILL -- COUNT TO TEN--ONE--TWO--


MEANWHILE, BACKSTAGE...
--THREE --FOUR--
NOW TO CLIMB UP THAT LADDER-TO THE "MAGIC BOX"!

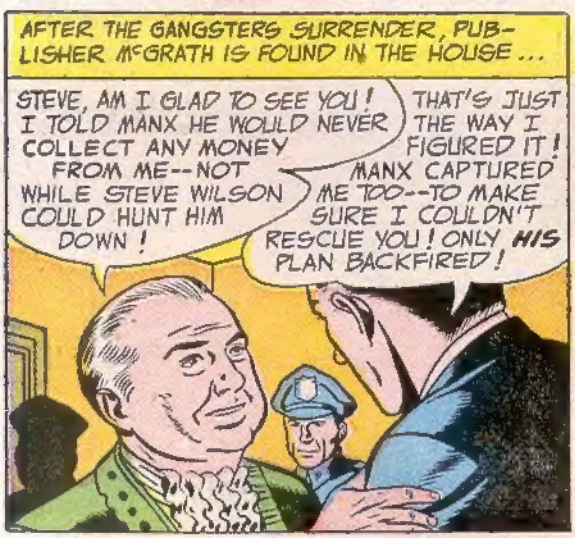

SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING, A BLANKET IS THROWN OVER THE INTREPID NEWSHAWK...
UHH...
QUICK! PULL HIM OUT THIS WAY!

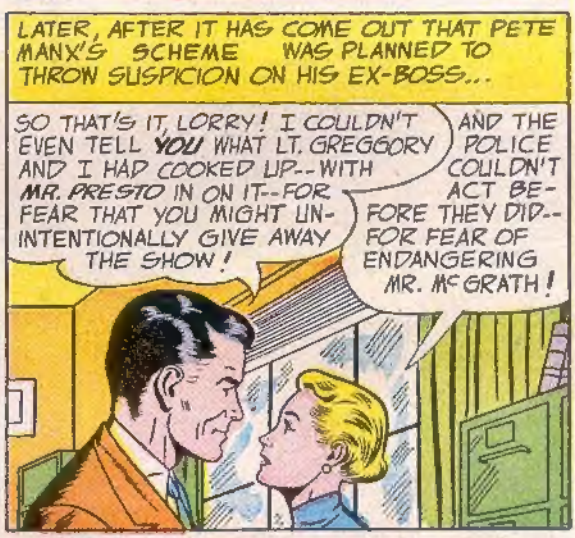
SOON AFTER, WHEN THE BLANKET IS REMOVED, STEVE FINDS HIMSELF A PRISONER IN A SPEEDING CAR...
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
TO MCGRATH! HE'S EXPECTING YOU TO RESCUE HIM! HA! HA!

AS THE SPEEDING CAR WINDS ITS WAY INTO THE COUNTRYSIDE, A POLICE HELICOPTER FOLLOWS IT OVERHEAD...
NOBODY BEHIND US, PETE! NO ONE ELSE IN SIGHT!
THEY'RE TURNING NOW--LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE HEADING FOR A HOUSE OFF THE ROAD, LIEUTENANT!


NOT LONG AFTER, IN A DETACHED COTTAGE NEAR THE MAIN ROAD...
GRAB THEM, BOYS! DON'T GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO GET AWAY!
THE POLICE!

BEFORE THE GANGSTERS CAN FIRE THEIR GUNS...
NICE GOING, LIEUTENANT! THAT'S PETE MANX YOU'RE TAKING CARE OF--THE LEADER OF THE GANG--AND FORMER ASSISTANT OF MR. PRESTO!


AFTER THE GANGSTERS SURRENDER, PUBLISHER McGRATH IS FOUND IN THE HOUSE...
STEVE, AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU! I TOLD MANX HE WOULD NEVER COLLECT ANY MONEY FROM ME--NOT WHILE STEVE WILSON COULD HUNT HIM DOWN!
THAT'S JUST THE WAY I FIGURED IT! MANX CAPTURED ME TOO--TO MAKE SURE I COULDN'T RESCUE YOU! ONLY HIS PLAN BACKFIRED!


LATER, AFTER IT HAS COME OUT THAT PETE MANX'S SCHEME WAS PLANNED TO THROW SUSPICION ON HIS EX-BOSS...
SO THAT'S IT, LORRY! I COULDN'T EVEN TELL YOU WHAT LT. GREGGORY AND I HAD COOKED UP--WITH MR. PRESTO IN ON IT--FOR FEAR THAT YOU MIGHT UNINTENTIONALLY GIVE AWAY THE SHOW!
AND THE POLICE COULDN'T ACT BEFORE THEY DID--FOR FEAR OF ENDANGERING MR. McGRATH!

BUT THERE'S STILL A QUESTION, STEVE! WHAT ABOUT THE FLASH-BULB CAMERAMAN?
OH, THAT! I'M SORRY I MADE SUCH A MYSTERY OUT OF IT! IT'S REALLY VERY SIMPLE...

YOU KNOW, FLASH BULBS MAKE EVERYBODY BLINK--AND THE CAMERAMAN IS PART OF MR. PRESTO'S ACT! IT'S ALL HE NEEDS--THAT SPLIT-SECOND--TO WORK HIS "VANISHING ACT"!
The End
ILLUSTRATED
STEVE WILSON HELPS CAPTURE KIDNAPERS!

ODD NEWS ITEMS!

DURING THE CIVIL WAR, WHEN SOUTHERN NEWSPAPERS SUFFERED A SHORTAGE OF PAPER (*BECAUSE 90% OF THE PAPER MILLS WERE IN THE NORTH*), FORESIGHTED PUBLISHERS HAD THEIR PAPERS PRINTED ON WRAPPING PAPER AND WALLPAPER...

THIS TYPE IS ALL SET UP, SUH, BUT WE'VE EXHAUSTED OUR SUPPLY OF NEWSPRINT!

THE VICKSBURG ***DAILY CITIZEN*** *WILL APPEAR ON SCHEDULE! I HAVE BOUGHT UP ALL THE AVAILABLE WRAPPING PAPER IN TOWN!*

IN 1880, FOLLOWING THE INITIAL APPEARANCES OF THE AFTERNOON PAPER, THE KANSAS CITY ***STAR***, PEOPLE NICKNAMED IT THE "***TWILIGHT TWINKLER***" BECAUSE OF A QUATRAIN THAT APPEARED IN THE MORNING KANSAS CITY ***TIMES***..

HA, HA! DID YOU READ WHAT THE ***TIMES*** *PRINTED ABOUT THE* ***STAR***?

TWINKLE, TWINKLE, LITTLE STAR, BRIGHT AND GOSSIPY YOU ARE; WE CAN DAILY HEAR YOU SPEAK FOR A PALTRY DIME A WEEK!"

TO SPEED UP TRANSMISSION OF OVERSEAS NEWS, THE ***JOURNAL OF COMMERCE*** BUILT A SEMAPHORE AT SANDY HOOK, IN NEW YORK HARBOR, TO RELAY THE NEWS FROM ITS INCOMING CLIPPER SHIP TO THE PUBLICATION OFFICE IN NEW YORK CITY...

COTTON PRODUCTION ON RISE IN ENGLAND...

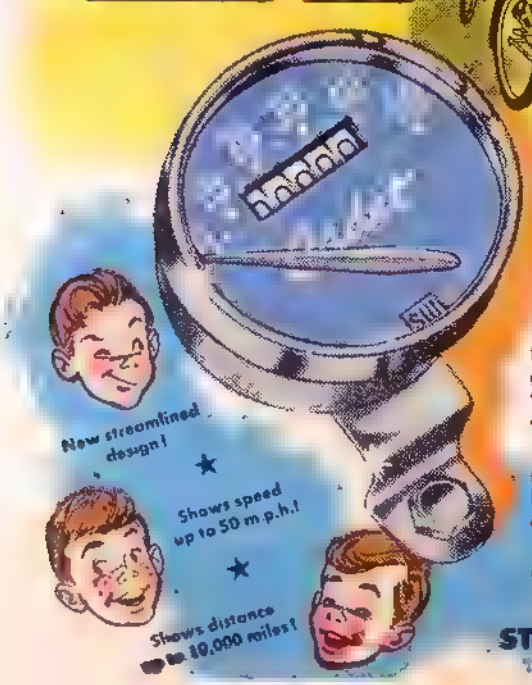
ADVERTISEMENT

Get the pace for your bike buddies!

STEWART-WARNER

"CADET"

bike speedometers



Now YOU be the leader—the one that sets the pace for the whole gang! That's what happens when you add the new Stewart-Warner "CADET" Bike Speedometer to your bike. You set the pace on trips, you know just how far you've gone.

And this is no toy. The "CADET" is made by Stewart-Warner, the same company that makes speedometers for millions of cars, trucks, buses and motorcycles. Skyrider blue dial, brilliant red pointer, curved shatterproof lens and gleaming metal case.

See the "CADET" Bike Speedometer at your bike shop, hardware or department store, or write Stewart-Warner, Dept. L-55, 1840 Diversey Parkway, Chicago 14, Illinois.

STEWART-WARNER BIKE SPEEDOMETERS

"It's fun to know how fast, how far you go!"

NEW ALUMINUM PACKAGE

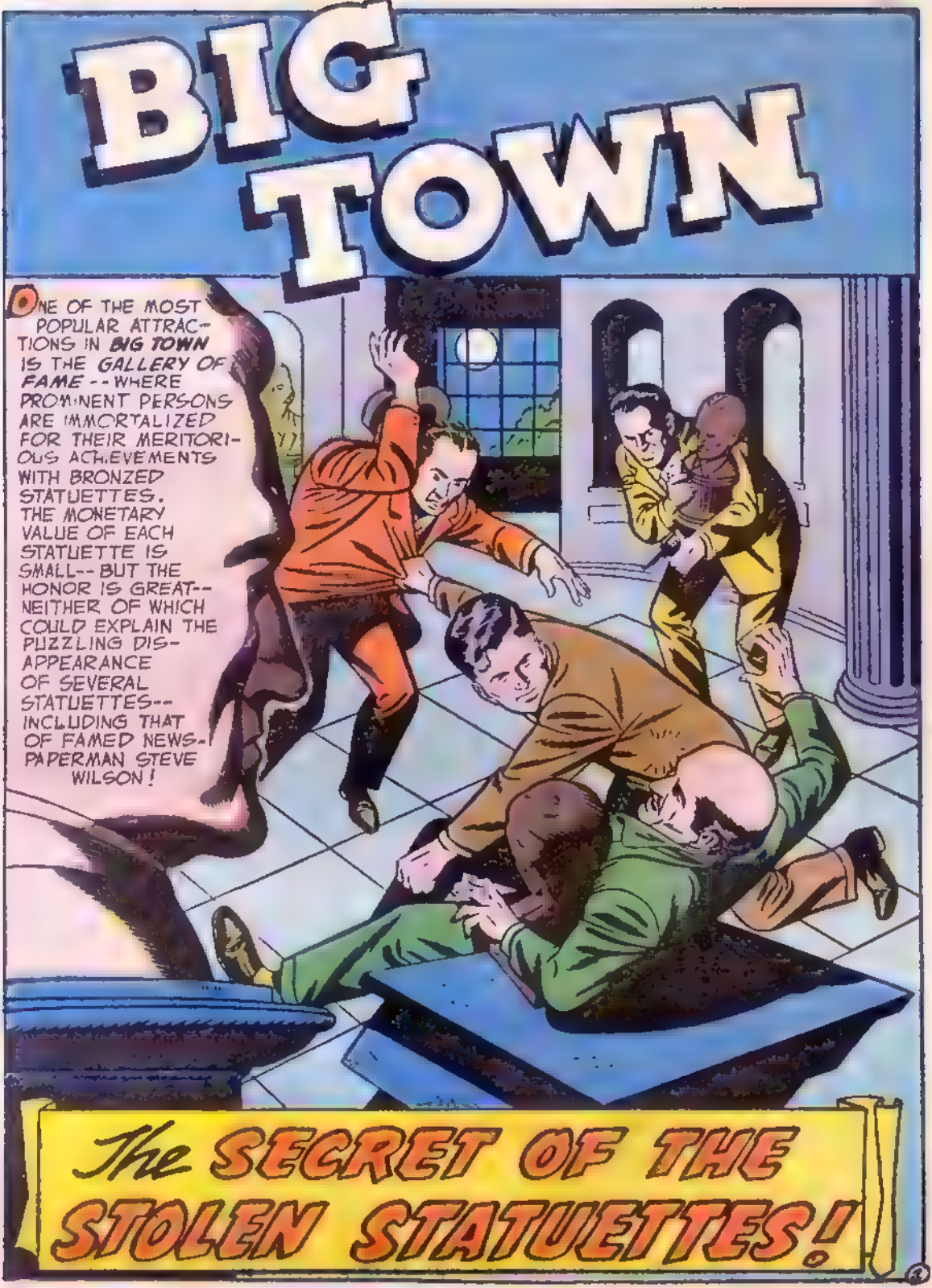
keeps GOOD LUCK Fresher and Better Tasting than any other margarine!

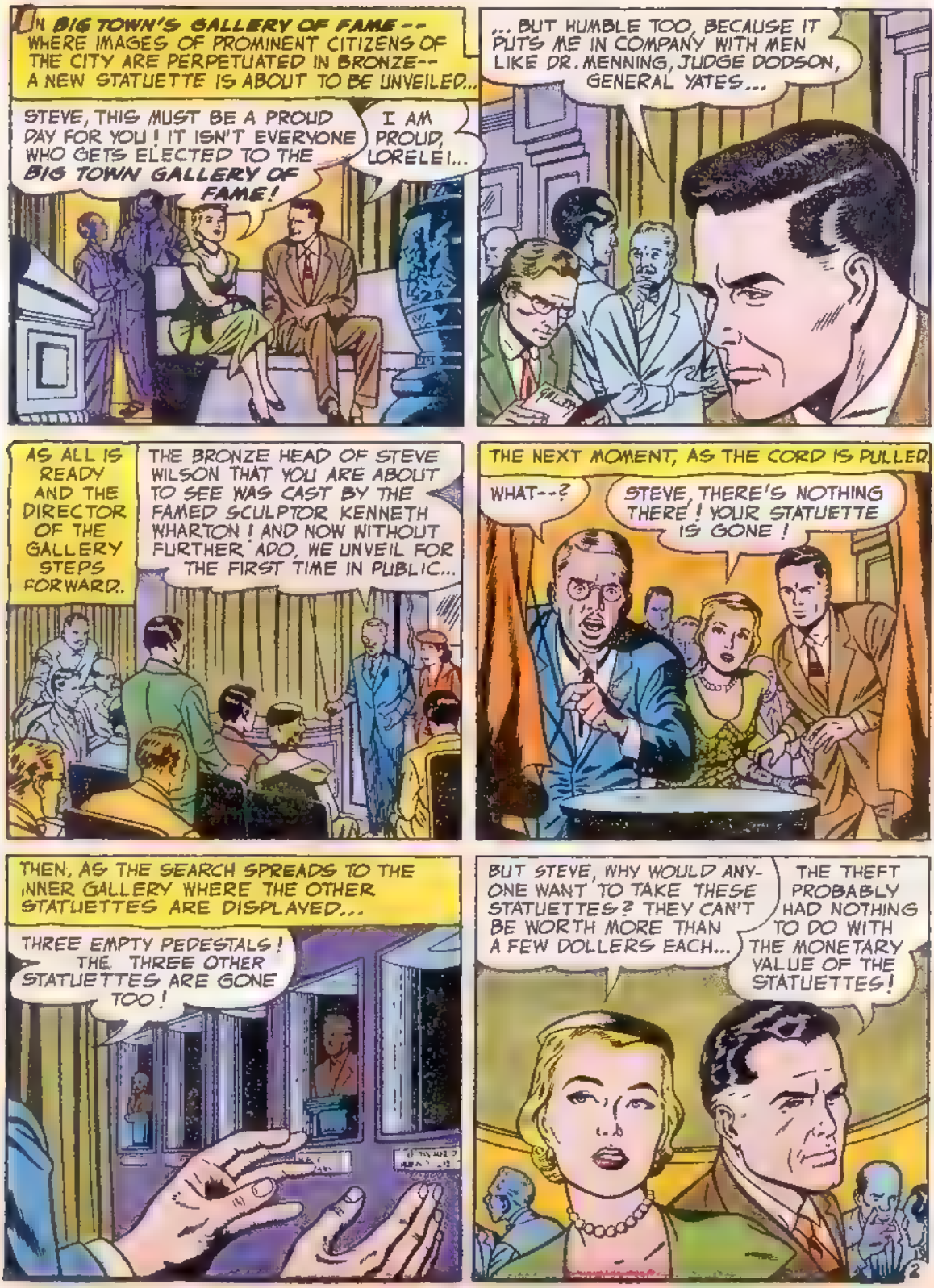
BUY IT we know you'll agree! GOOD LUCK margarine *stays fresher* and *tastes better* than any other margarine because GOOD LUCK is the *only* margarine double wrapped and sealed in Reynolds Wrap Aluminum foil.

First we wrap each quarter pound of GOOD LUCK in pure aluminum. Next we place the four quarters in a waxed carton. *Then we wrap the carton in an outer wrap of shiny aluminum foil* and seal it tight. This keeps GOOD LUCK fresher and better tasting than any other margarine.

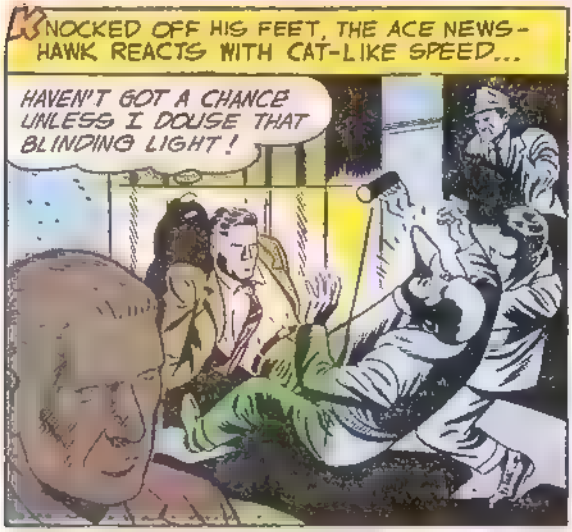
We guarantee that you'll like GOOD LUCK in its new aluminum package better than any other spread you've ever tasted or we'll refund your money.

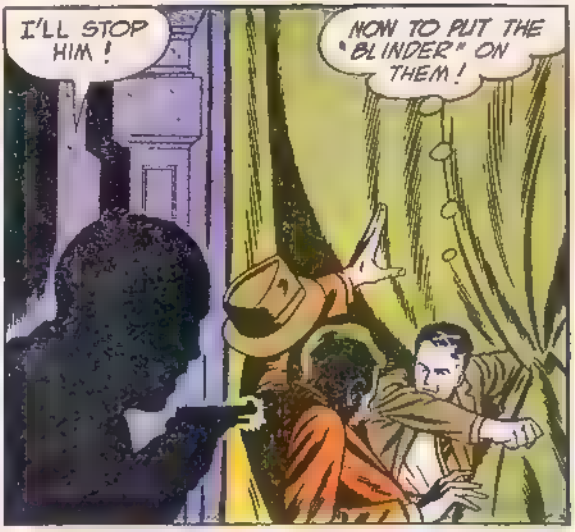
If you don't agree, just drop a line to Lever Brothers Company, 390 Park Avenue, New York 22, N.Y., enclosing the guarantee panel from the GOOD LUCK package. We'll send you every penny you paid.

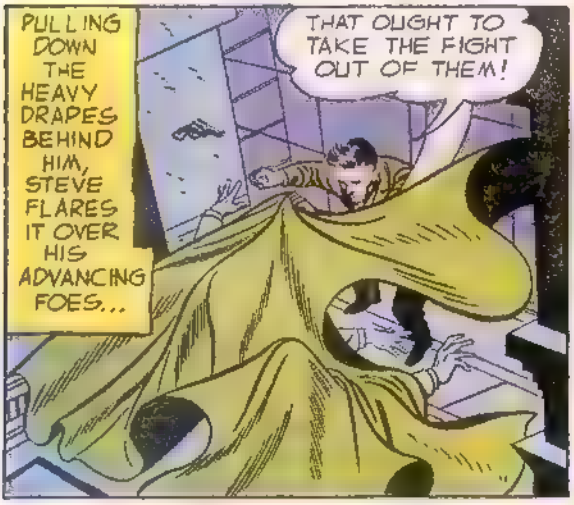

BIG TOWN
ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR ATTRACTIONS IN BIG TOWN IS THE GALLERY OF FAME--WHERE PROMINENT PERSONS ARE IMMORTALIZED FOR THEIR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS WITH BRONZED STATUETTES. THE MONETARY VALUE OF EACH STATUETTE IS SMALL--BUT THE HONOR IS GREAT--NEITHER OF WHICH COULD EXPLAIN THE PUZZLING DISAPPEARANCE OF SEVERAL STATUETTES--INCLUDING THAT OF FAMED NEWSPAPERMAN STEVE WILSON!
The SECRET OF THE STOLEN STATUETTES!

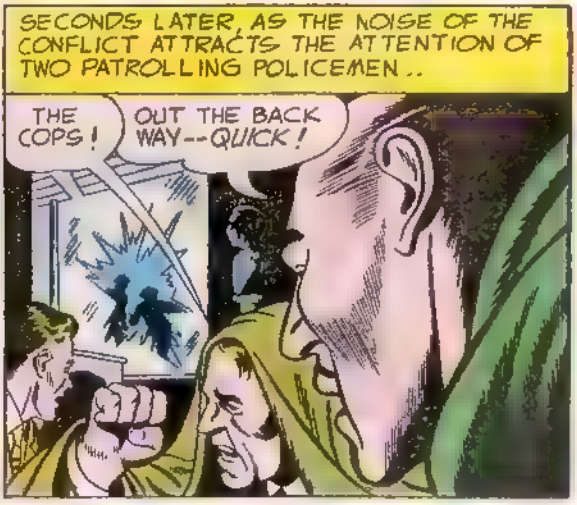

IN BIG TOWN'S GALLERY OF FAME -- WHERE IMAGES OF PROMINENT CITIZENS OF THE CITY ARE PERPETUATED IN BRONZE -- A NEW STATUETTE IS ABOUT TO BE UNVEILED...
STEVE, THIS MUST BE A PROUD DAY FOR YOU! IT ISN'T EVERYONE WHO GETS ELECTED TO THE BIG TOWN GALLERY OF FAME!
I AM PROUD, LORELEI...
...BUT HUMBLE TOO, BECAUSE IT PUTS ME IN COMPANY WITH MEN LIKE DR. MENNING, JUDGE DODSON, GENERAL YATES...
AS ALL IS READY AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE GALLERY STEPS FORWARD.
THE BRONZE HEAD OF STEVE WILSON THAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE WAS CAST BY THE FAMED SCULPTOR KENNETH WHARTON! AND NOW WITHOUT FURTHER ADO, WE UNVEIL FOR THE FIRST TIME IN PUBLIC...
THE NEXT MOMENT, AS THE CORD IS PULLED...
WHAT--?
STEVE, THERE'S NOTHING THERE! YOUR STATUETTE IS GONE!
THEN, AS THE SEARCH SPREADS TO THE INNER GALLERY WHERE THE OTHER STATUETTES ARE DISPLAYED...
THREE EMPTY PEDESTALS! THE THREE OTHER STATUETTES ARE GONE TOO!
BUT STEVE, WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO TAKE THESE STATUETTES? THEY CAN'T BE WORTH MORE THAN A FEW DOLLERS EACH...
THE THEFT PROBABLY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE MONETARY VALUE OF THE STATUETTES!

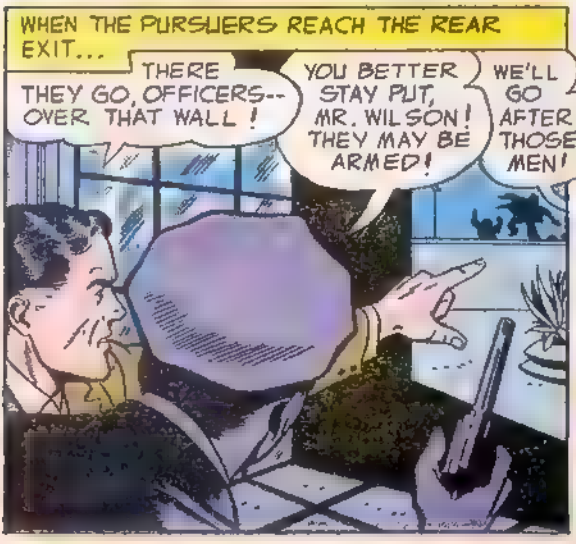
LATER, AS THE TWO NEWSGATHERS EAT DINNER AT BARNEY'S, THEIR FAVORITE RESTAURANT...
THE POLICE HAVE STARTED THEIR INVESTIGATION OF THE STOLEN STATUETTES, BUT WE'LL LOOK INTO SOME ANGLES OF OUR OWN, LORRY--LIKE KENNETH WHARTON, THE SCULPTOR! SUPPOSE YOU GET OVER THERE AND FIND OUT WHAT HE HAS TO SAY ABOUT THIS...
I'LL TAKE THE PRESS CAR!
RIGHT! I'LL WALK BACK TO THE OFFICE AND SEE IF ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS HAVE BROKEN THERE...
BUT AS STEVE WALKS DOWN THE STREET A FEW MINUTES LATER...
THAT'S ODD... A MOVING LIGHT INSIDE THE GALLERY OF FAME BUILDING! I WONDER WHAT COULD BE GOING ON THERE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
GALLERY OF
SURPRISINGLY FINDING A WINDOW SMASHED OPEN, THE NEWSMAN MAKES HIS WAY INSIDE..
SEARCHING THE ROOM BY FLASHLIGHT! THOSE MEN ARE UP TO NO GOOD!
I CAN'T FIND IT!
THE NEXT MOMENT, AS A TELLTALE NOISE BETRAYS STEVE'S PRESENCE..
UH-OH! STEPPED ON A CREAKY BOARD!
WHO'S THERE?
STEVE WILSON!
SQUEEK!
WHILE ONE OF THE MEN FLASHES THE BLINDING LIGHT INTO STEVE'S EYES, ANOTHER ONE RUSHES AT HIM AND...


KNOCKED OFF HIS FEET, THE ACE NEWS-HAWK REACTS WITH CAT-LIKE SPEED...
HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE UNLESS I DOUSE THAT BLINDING LIGHT!

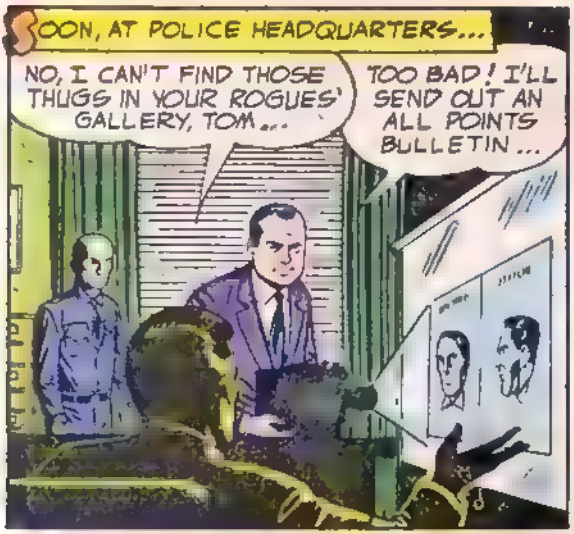

I'LL STOP HIM!
NOW TO PUT THE "BLINDER" ON THEM!

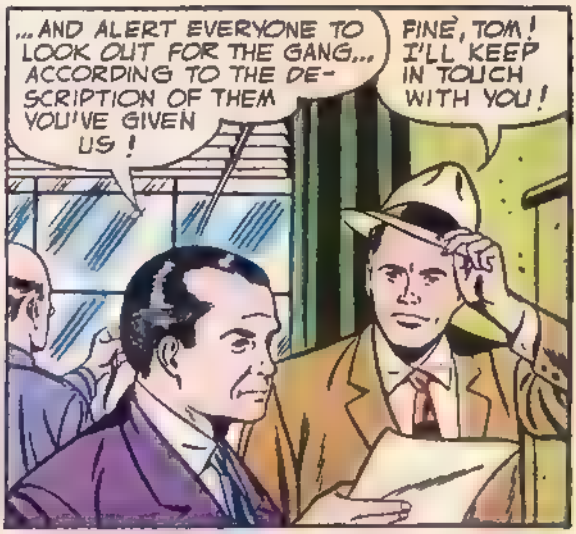

PULLING DOWN THE HEAVY DRAPES BEHIND HIM, STEVE FLARES IT OVER HIS ADVANCING FOES...
THAT OUGHT TO TAKE THE FIGHT OUT OF THEM!


SECONDS LATER, AS THE NOISE OF THE CONFLICT ATTRACTS THE ATTENTION OF TWO PATROLLING POLICEMEN..
THE COPS!
OUT THE BACK WAY--QUICK!

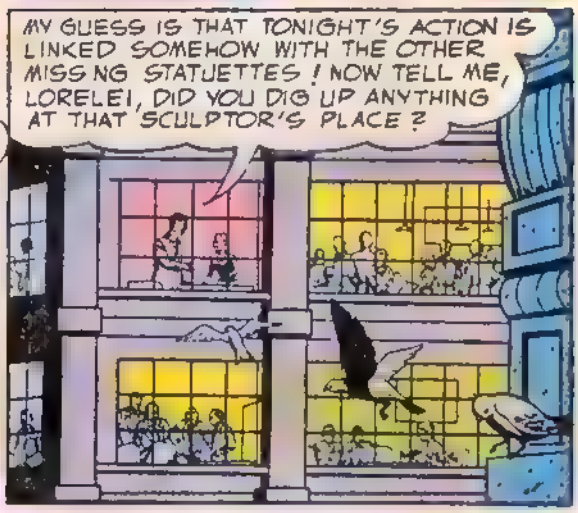

WHEN THE PURSUERS REACH THE REAR EXIT...
THERE THEY GO, OFFICERS--OVER THAT WALL!
YOU BETTER STAY PUT, MR. WILSON! THEY MAY BE ARMED!
WE'LL GO AFTER THOSE MEN!

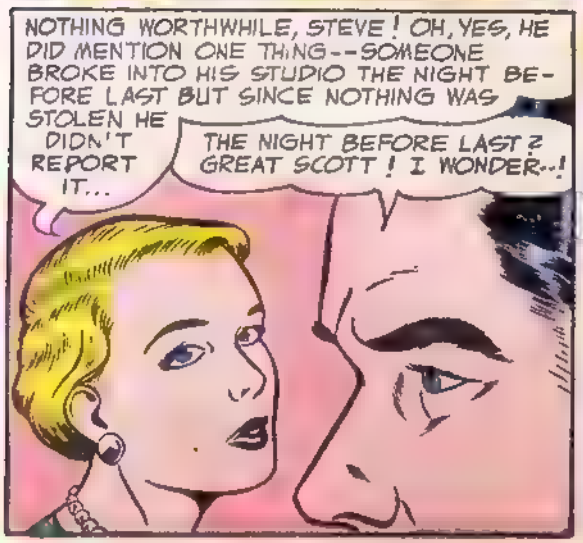
BUT SHORTLY.
THEY GOT AWAY IN A CAR--DISAPPEARED INTO THE NIGHT!
WELL, AT LEAST I GOT A GOOD LOOK AT THEIR FACES! I'LL GO ON TO HEADQUARTERS AND TELL LT TOM GREGGORY ABOUT THIS!

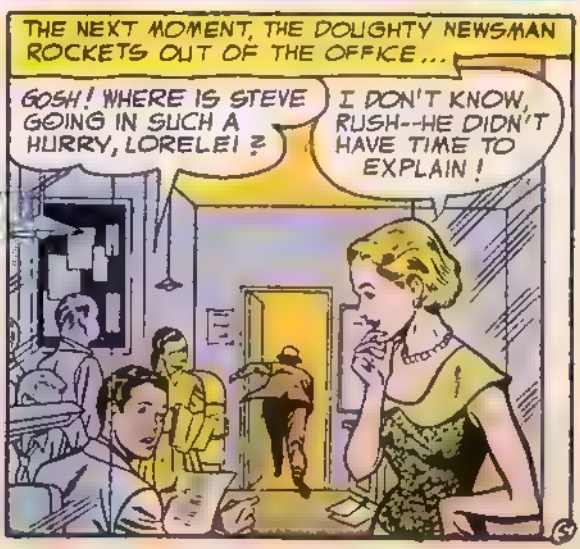

SOON, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
NO, I CAN'T FIND THOSE THUGS IN YOUR ROGUES' GALLERY, TOM...
TOO BAD! I'LL SEND OUT AN ALL POINTS BULLETIN...


...AND ALERT EVERYONE TO LOOK OUT FOR THE GANG... ACCORDING TO THE DESCRIPTION OF THEM YOU'VE GIVEN US!
FINE, TOM! I'LL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU!

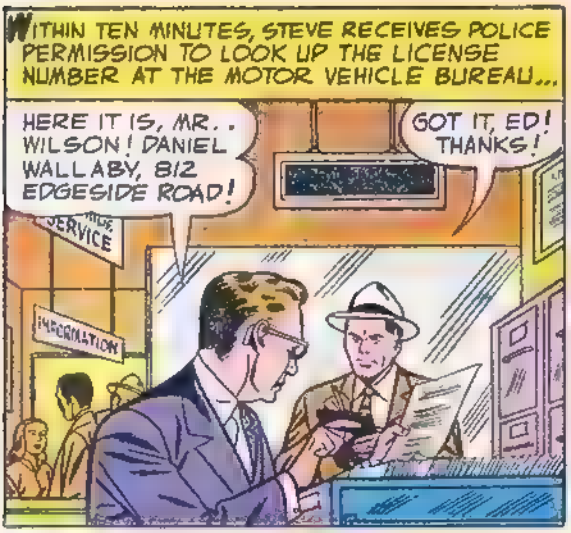
LATER, AT STEVE'S ILLUSTRATED PRESS OFFICE...
BUT STEVE, WHAT WERE THOSE THUGS DOING AT THE GALLERY OF FAME? THERE'S NOTHING TO STEAL THERE...
NO? WHAT ABOUT THE MISSING STATUETTES? THEY WERE STOLEN! WHAT KIND OF ECCENTRIC THIEVES ARE WE DEALING WITH?

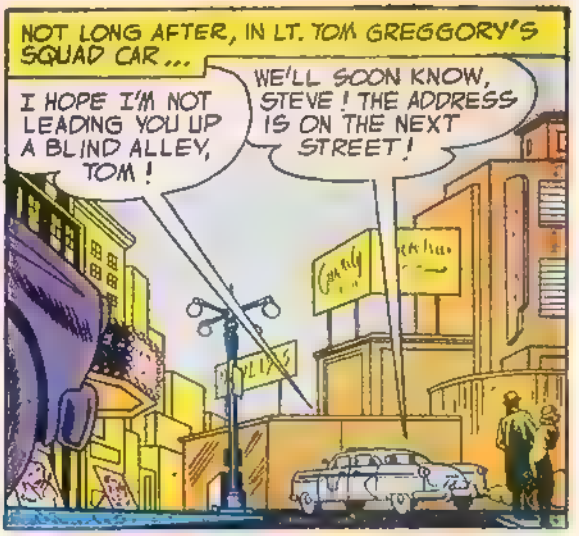

MY GUESS IS THAT TONIGHT'S ACTION IS LINKED SOMEHOW WITH THE OTHER MISSING STATUETTES! NOW TELL ME, LORELEI, DID YOU DIG UP ANYTHING AT THAT SCULPTOR'S PLACE?

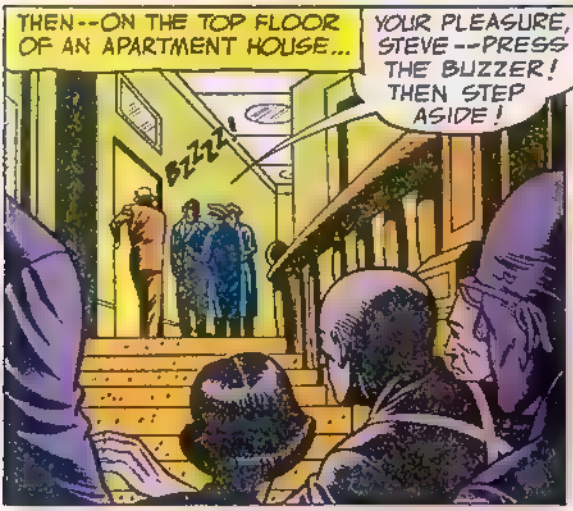

NOTHING WORTHWHILE, STEVE! OH, YES, HE DID MENTION ONE THING--SOMEONE BROKE INTO HIS STUDIO THE NIGHT BEFORE LAST BUT SINCE NOTHING WAS STOLEN HE DIDN'T REPORT IT...
THE NIGHT BEFORE LAST? GREAT SCOTT! I WONDER..!

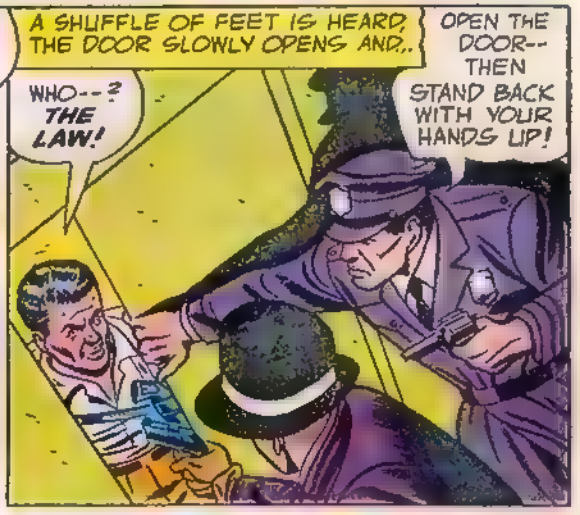

THE NEXT MOMENT, THE DOUGHTY NEWSMAN ROCKETS OUT OF THE OFFICE...
GOSH! WHERE IS STEVE GOING IN SUCH A HURRY, LORELEI?
I DON'T KNOW, RUSH--HE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO EXPLAIN!

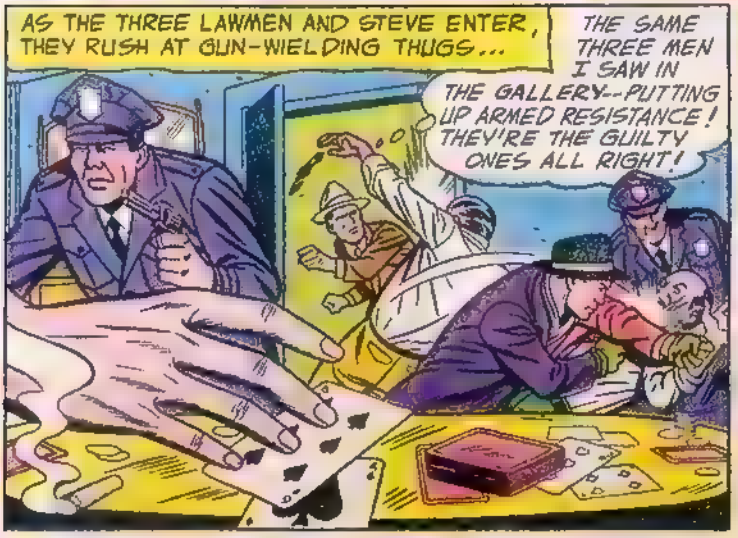
SOON AFTER, IN SCULPTOR KENNETH WHARTON'S STUDIO...
YOU'RE SURE, MR. WHARTON, THAT NOTHING WAS TAKEN--AND WHOEVER BROKE IN LEFT NO CLUES TO HIS IDENTITY?
THAT'S RIGHT, MR. WILSON! BUT WHY ALL THE INTEREST IN A MEANINGLESS...
LISTEN--THE NIGHT BEFORE LAST A MYSTERIOUS JEWEL ROBBERY TOOK PLACE NEAR HERE! THERE COULD BE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TWO--BUT IN WHAT WAY, I JUST CAN'T SEE AT THE MOMENT!
LATER, AS STEVE LEAVES...
IF I COULD ONLY FIND THE MISSING PIECE IN THIS JIG-SAW PUZZLE, I COULD--WAIT! THOSE THUGS WHO ATTACKED ME IN THE GALLERY OF FAME THAT NIGHT! THERE WAS A CAR PARKED NEAR THE BUILDING...
TAILOR
"JUST BEFORE I SAW THE LIGHT IN THE BUILDING, I PASSED A CAR AND A CURIOUS THOUGHT ABOUT IT FLASHED THROUGH MY MIND..."
THAT LICENSE PLATE IS THE SAME AS MY--THAT'S ODD!...A MOVING LIGHT INSIDE THE GALLERY OF FAME BUILDING!
I'LL BET THAT WAS THE CAR THE GANG USED FOR ITS GETAWAY! AND ITS LICENSE REMINDED ME OF SOME NUMBER OF MINE--BUT WHAT NUMBER? NOT MY SOCIAL SECURITY.. NOT MY BANK BOOK NUMBER...
AFTER MINUTES OF ANXIOUS MENTAL EFFORT...
I'VE GOT IT! IT WAS MY HOME ADDRESS--8401! THE LICENSE PLATE WAS 8401! AA 8401!
AA8401
8401


WITHIN TEN MINUTES, STEVE RECEIVES POLICE PERMISSION TO LOOK UP THE LICENSE NUMBER AT THE MOTOR VEHICLE BUREAU...
HERE IT IS, MR.. WILSON! DANIEL WALLABY, 812 EDGESIDE ROAD!
GOT IT, ED! THANKS!
SERVICE
INFORMATION

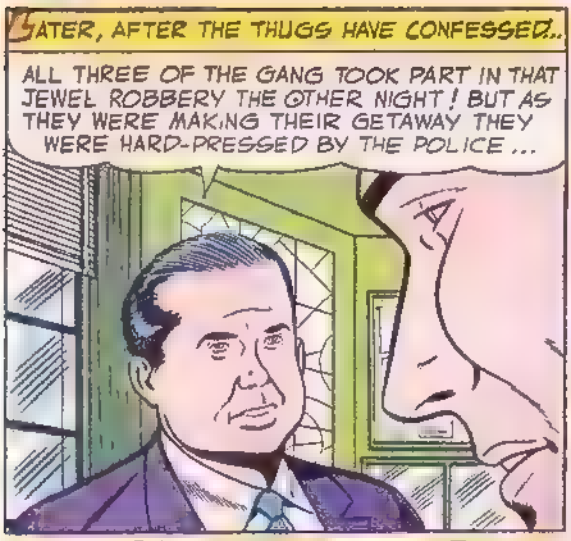

NOT LONG AFTER, IN LT. TOM GREGGORY'S SQUAD CAR...
I HOPE I'M NOT LEADING YOU UP A BLIND ALLEY, TOM!
WE'LL SOON KNOW, STEVE! THE ADDRESS IS ON THE NEXT STREET!

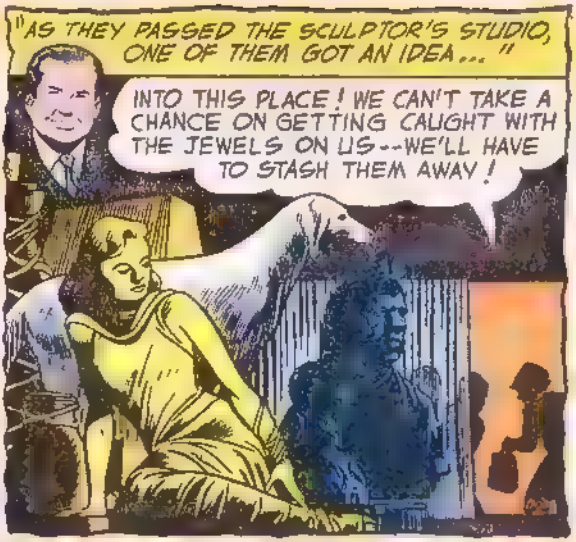

THEN--ON THE TOP FLOOR OF AN APARTMENT HOUSE...
YOUR PLEASURE, STEVE--PRESS THE BUZZER! THEN STEP ASIDE!
BZZZ!

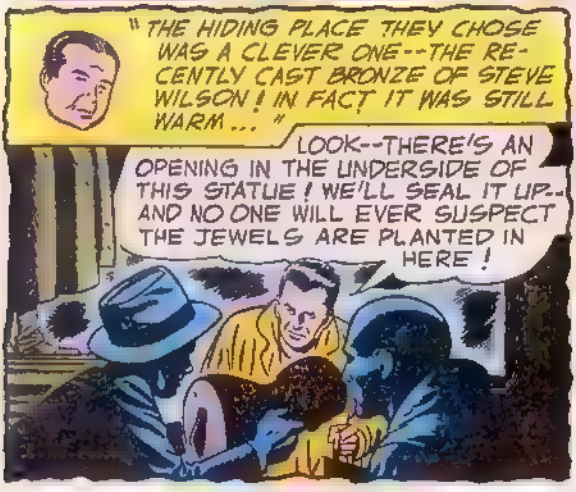

A SHUFFLE OF FEET IS HEARD, THE DOOR SLOWLY OPENS AND,.
OPEN THE DOOR-- THEN STAND BACK WITH YOUR HANDS UP!
WHO--? THE LAW!

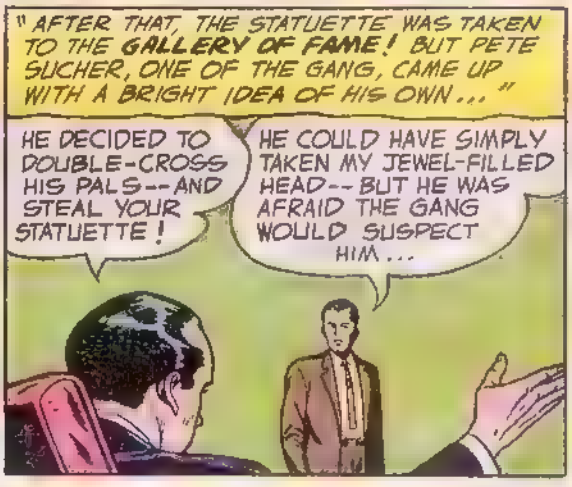

AS THE THREE LAWMEN AND STEVE ENTER, THEY RUSH AT GUN-WIELDING THUGS...
THE SAME THREE MEN I SAW IN THE GALLERY--PUTTING UP ARMED RESISTANCE! THEY'RE THE GUILTY ONES ALL RIGHT!

IN LESS THAN A MINUTE THE GUNMEN ARE DISARMED...
ALL RIGHT, HUSTLE THEM OVER TO HEADQUARTERS! WE'LL GRILL THEM THERE!

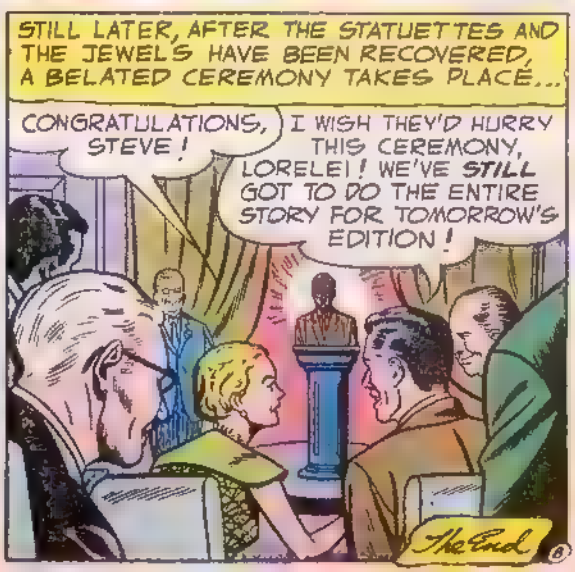

LATER, AFTER THE THUGS HAVE CONFESSED...
ALL THREE OF THE GANG TOOK PART IN THAT JEWEL ROBBERY THE OTHER NIGHT! BUT AS THEY WERE MAKING THEIR GETAWAY THEY WERE HARD-PRESSED BY THE POLICE ...


"AS THEY PASSED THE SCULPTOR'S STUDIO, ONE OF THEM GOT AN IDEA ... "
INTO THIS PLACE! WE CAN'T TAKE A CHANCE ON GETTING CAUGHT WITH THE JEWELS ON US--WE'LL HAVE TO STASH THEM AWAY!


"THE HIDING PLACE THEY CHOSE WAS A CLEVER ONE--THE RECENTLY CAST BRONZE OF STEVE WILSON! IN FACT IT WAS STILL WARM ... "
LOOK--THERE'S AN OPENING IN THE UNDERSIDE OF THIS STATUE! WE'LL SEAL IT UP--AND NO ONE WILL EVER SUSPECT THE JEWELS ARE PLANTED IN HERE!


"AFTER THAT, THE STATUETTE WAS TAKEN TO THE GALLERY OF FAME! BUT PETE SUCHER, ONE OF THE GANG, CAME UP WITH A BRIGHT IDEA OF HIS OWN ... "
HE DECIDED TO DOUBLE-CROSS HIS PALS--AND STEAL YOUR STATUETTE!
HE COULD HAVE SIMPLY TAKEN MY JEWEL-FILLED HEAD--BUT HE WAS AFRAID THE GANG WOULD SUSPECT HIM ...

SO IN ADDITION TO MINE, HE TOOK A FEW OTHERS--TO FOOL HIS GANG THAT THE ROBBERY WAS THE WORK OF SOME ECCENTRIC THIEF!


STILL LATER, AFTER THE STATUETTES AND THE JEWELS HAVE BEEN RECOVERED, A BELATED CEREMONY TAKES PLACE...
CONGRATULATIONS, STEVE!
I WISH THEY'D HURRY THIS CEREMONY, LORELEI! WE'VE STILL GOT TO DO THE ENTIRE STORY FOR TOMORROW'S EDITION!
The End

NEWSPAPER FLASHES!

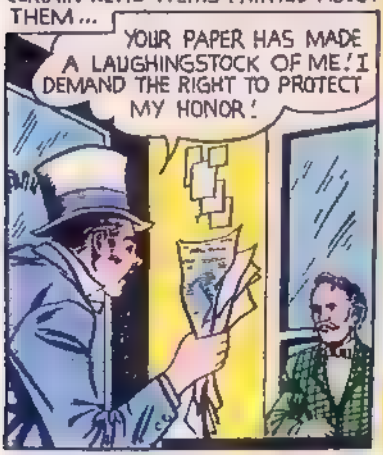
IN 1911, THE CHICAGO TABLOID, ***DAY BOOK,*** APPEARED WITHOUT ANY ADVERTISING IN ITS PAGES. DESPITE THIS LOSS OF REVENUE, THE PAPER WAS A MODERATE SUCCESS FOR THE SIX YEARS IT WAS PUBLISHED. ITS CHIEF REPORTER WAS CARL SANBURG, WHO IN LATER YEARS WAS TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL PROMINENCE AS A POET AND BIOGRAPHER...

MY COMPANY WOULD LIKE TO BUY A FULL-PAGE AD--
SORRY, SIR--THE DAY BOOK PRINTS NEWS EXCLUSIVELY--NO ADVERTISING MATTER WHAT-SOEVER!

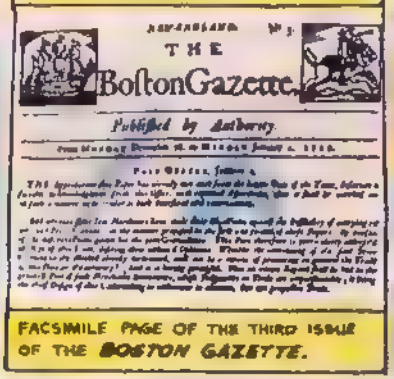
A PENNSYLVANIA JUDGE RULED IN 1853 THAT ANYONE PLACING NEWSPAPERS ON SALE DURING SUNDAY WAS VIOLATING THE STATE'S BLUE LAWS, LIABLE TO A FINE OF $4, WHILE THE "HAWKING" OF PAPERS CONSTITUTED DISORDERLY CONDUCT NEVERTHELESS, THE PHILADELPHIA ***SUNDAY DISPATCH*** CONTINUED SELLING ITS EDITIONS ON SUNDAYS AND PAID THE FINE OF EVERY NEWSDEALER SUMMONED TO COURT...

BUY THE SUNDAY DISPATCH, SIR?
YOU "SOLD" THE WRONG PERSON, MISTER. I'M A PLAINCLOTHESMAN! I'LL HAVE TO GIVE YOU A SUMMONS!
ON SALE PAPERS 2¢

DURING THE EARLY DAYS OF THE 19TH CENTURY, EDITORS WERE FREQUENTLY CHALLENGED TO DUELS BY IRATE PERSONS WHO OBJECTED TO CERTAIN NEWS ITEMS PRINTED ABOUT THEM...



EARLY AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS "DRESSED UP" THEIR FRONT PAGES WITH EMBLEMATIC CUTS TO OVERCOME THE DRAB APPEARANCES OF THE REST OF THE PAGE WHICH USED WORN TYPE AND INFERIOR INK AND PRESSWORK...



FACSIMILE PAGE OF THE THIRD ISSUE OF THE ***BOSTON GAZETTE.***

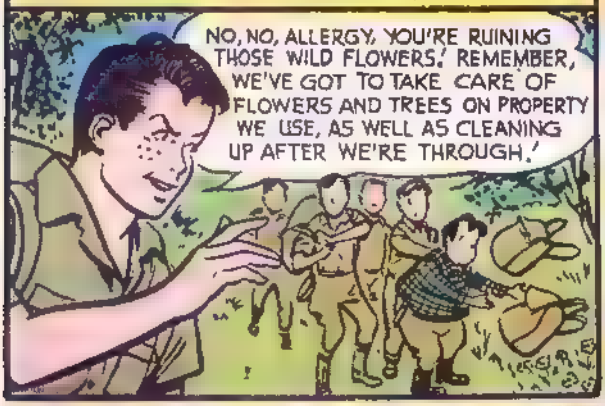
ADVERTISEMENT

FEARLESS FOSDICK by Al Capp

BANG!
ARE YOU HURT, FOSDICK?
MERELY A SUPERFICIAL WOUND!!
CATCH HIM-QUICKLY!!
I PUT I MUST FIX MY HAIR, WITH WILDROOT CREAM OIL!!-REMOVES LOOSE DANDRUFF-
KEEPS HAIR NEAT, BUT NOT-UGH!!-GREASY!!
IMPORTANT AT A TIME LIKE THIS!
WILDROOT CREAM-OIL HAIR TONIC
WILDROOT CREAM-OIL HAIR TONIC
ALL RIGHT, MES," NOW I WILL BE A CREDIT TO THE DEPARTMENT ON THE FRONT PAGE!!-GET WILDROOT CREAM OIL, CHARLIE!!"
BUT MY NAME IS PRUDENCE PIMPLETON
GOT LOOSE DANDRUFF? DON'T GET MAD-GET WILDROOT CREAM-OIL, CHA-A-RLIE!

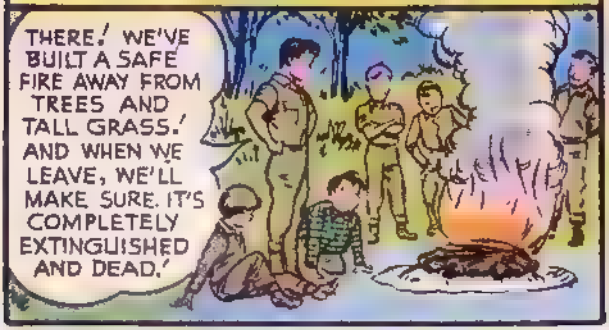
Binky gives "Tips on CAMPING!"

LEARN HOW TO BEHAVE IN THE OUT-OF-DOORS...

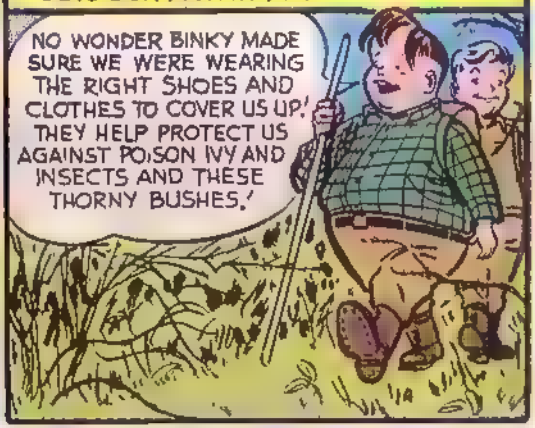

NO, NO, ALLERGY, YOU'RE RUINING THOSE WILD FLOWERS! REMEMBER, WE'VE GOT TO TAKE CARE OF FLOWERS AND TREES ON PROPERTY WE USE, AS WELL AS CLEANING UP AFTER WE'RE THROUGH.'

LEARN THE RIGHT WAY TO USE AND CARE FOR A CAMPING KNIFE...

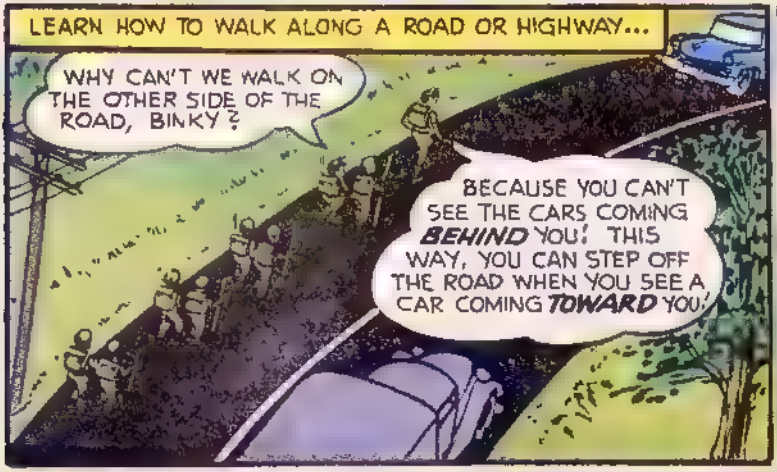
LEARN HOW TO CHOOSE THE SPOT FOR A FIRE--HOW TO BUILD IT AND HOW TO PUT IT OUT...


THERE! WE'VE BUILT A SAFE FIRE AWAY FROM TREES AND TALL GRASS.' AND WHEN WE LEAVE, WE'LL MAKE SURE IT'S COMPLETELY EXTINGUISHED AND DEAD.'

LEARN HOW TO DRESS PROPERLY FOR OUTDOOR ACTIVITY...


NO WONDER BINKY MADE SURE WE WERE WEARING THE RIGHT SHOES AND CLOTHES TO COVER US UP! THEY HELP PROTECT US AGAINST POISON IVY AND INSECTS AND THESE THORNY BUSHES.'

LEARN HOW TO WALK ALONG A ROAD OR HIGHWAY...


WHY CAN'T WE WALK ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD, BINKY?
BECAUSE YOU CAN'T SEE THE CARS COMING BEHIND YOU! THIS WAY, YOU CAN STEP OFF THE ROAD WHEN YOU SEE A CAR COMING TOWARD YOU!

YOU SHOULD ALSO LEARN FIRST, HOW TO COOK SOMETHING SIMPLE, AND HOW TO TIE A FEW BASIC KNOTS! KNOWING THE PROPER SKILLS AND THE PROPER SAFETY MEASURES WILL MAKE YOUR CAMPING TRIP A HAPPY ONE.'

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

AMATEUR INVENTORS

There May Be Nothing New Under the Sun, But Some People Never Stop Looking

A COMPLETELY new idea is hard to come by, but one automobile manufacturer receives over 400 ideas, suggestions, and inventions every month.

Most of the letters are not from professional inventors, but from ordinary Americans who feel that they have hit upon something really new and useful. Some hope that they may be able to purchase cars embodying their idea. Others, believing their suggestions to have commercial value, offer them on a business basis. Only about one out of every 20 of the ideas received is patented. One man wrote in to say that the company could use his idea if it would supply him with all the ice cream that he could eat for the rest of his life. Another offered his suggestion for $3,000,000, a used Plymouth, and a new wooden leg.

The ideas, suggestions and inventions submitted are of a wide variety and are sometimes contradictory. Take ash trays for example, if every suggestion for the placing of ashtrays were used, automobiles would have interiors banked solid with them.

Yet, once in a great while an outsider does come up with a completely novel idea that is of practical value to the automobile maker. The safety rim wheels that one company uses on all of its cars were first suggested and later patented by the man in California who submitted the idea, and a Canadian gave them the idea for an improved piston for hydraulic brakes that prevents brake fluid from leaking and helps the good operation of the brakes under wide changes in temperature.

Although Chrysler Corporation's mail bags bulge with letters of inventors and would-be inventors, they reflect only a part of the thousands of letters that are annually sent to the ever expanding files of the United States patent office. One patent taken out in 1868 is for a sort of mechanical rickshaw invented by Zadoc P. Dederick and Isaac Grass. In the words of the inventors, "This invention consists in connecting a steam-engine or other motor to a system of levers, which, in imitation of the action of the legs of a man, by the reciprocating motion of the piston, are made to walk over the ground, and draw a vehicle attached thereto." Not content to have the machine simply have legs, the inventors added a body and even a head of a man smoking a pipe as he ran along on his mechanical legs.

But while many inventors were experimenting with mechanical devices to provide mankind with mobility, others were still seeking new ways to use animal power. Two years after Messrs. Grass and Dederick had patented their ingenious contrivance, a man in Buffalo, N. Y., patented a dog power vehicle which was duly classed by the Patent Office under the heading of "Improvement in vehicles."

Not all the devices patented in the last century seem so out of fashion, however. We think that air conditioned cars are the latest thing, but in 1887 a "car heating and cooling device" for horseless carriages was registered in the U. S. Patent Office. A design for a pop-out windshield device for automobiles was filed twenty-five years ago.

When the automobile became a practical actuality, inventors had a new field in accessories. A man filed application in 1929 for a fiendish contraption to be used on drivers who do not dim their lights at night. In his words, "This invention overcomes the difficulties hithertofore experienced by directing back into the eyes of the driver the light rays from his headlights, thus stimulating, if not compeling him to remedy the source of annoyance."

WHY THE SHOE FITS

THE old-time cobbler's bench has almost gone the way of the great auk and the mustache cup. Here and there, a sentimental soul has resurrected one for duty as a coffee table, but shoemaking in America has been turned over to 1150 factories which now turn out nearly 500 million pairs annually. Averaging about three new pairs of shoes a year per person, we are the best shod nation in the world.

The first widely used footwear was probably the reed sandal, stylish around 2000 B.C. By the 14th century, Englishmen sported shoes so long that the toes had to be chained to the wearer's knees lest he trip. Catherine de Medici nearly 200 years later put the fair sex on high heels.

Formal shoemaking crossed the Atlantic with Thomas Beard on the second voyage of the *Mayflower*. One of the young Colonies' first cobblers, he carried his tools from home to home, making boots for entire families at a time. He and his colleagues also sharpened axes and pulled teeth.

For many decades, shoes showed little improvement. Clumsy, square-toed affairs, they fit either foot. The owner, in fact, switched them daily to equalize wear.

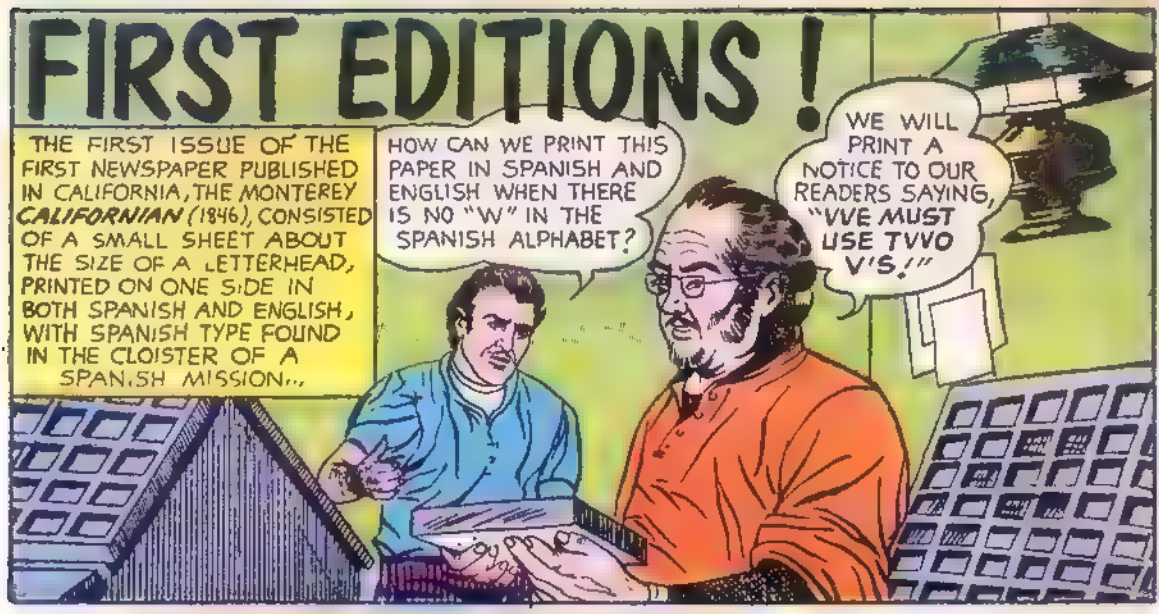
Shoes built to the individual shape of each foot appeared just before the Civil War. The increased comfort they brought was credited with helping to make that conflict as mobile as it was. Nevertheless, shoes still had to be fashioned by hand, from start to finish. It was work that required patience.

In today's typical factory a shoe is born in the designing room. It takes shape in the cutting room where stamping machines bang endlessly and the air is pungent with the smell of high grade "upper" leather, already dyed to the desired shade. Here, the embryo shoe is cut from well-tanned hides.

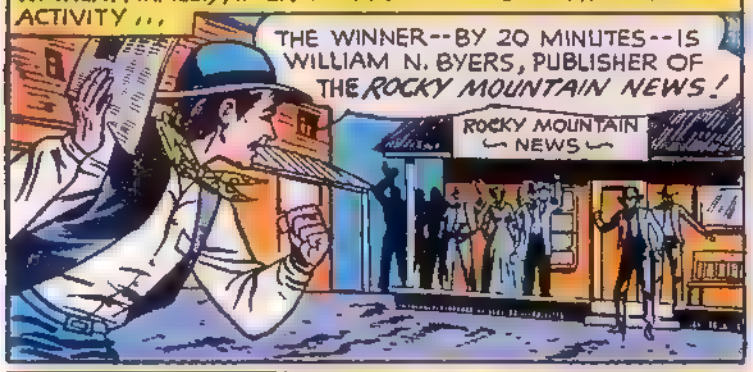
"Clicking" machines—named for their sound—cut sheets of leather, which are bent to follow the designer's patterns. The leather pieces go next to the sewing machines where they are stitched into completed shoe uppers. Then they progress to the lasting room where they assume the contours of the shoe we know. Inner and outer soles, meanwhile, have been assembled with a steel shank, formed to the contours of the human arch.

With attaching of the shank and heel and the stitching of the sole, the shoe is ready for buffing, polishing, boxing and its trip to the store. As finished footwear, it's made of more than meets the eye. In addition to leather, steel, nails and tacks are used in the manufacturing process. And most of us thought we were walking on leather!

FIRST EDITIONS!

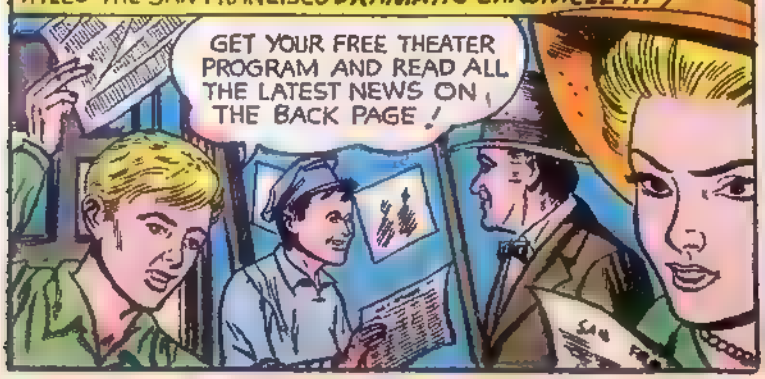

THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE FIRST NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN CALIFORNIA, THE MONTEREY CALIFORNIAN (1846), CONSISTED OF A SMALL SHEET ABOUT THE SIZE OF A LETTERHEAD, PRINTED ON ONE SIDE IN BOTH SPANISH AND ENGLISH, WITH SPANISH TYPE FOUND IN THE CLOISTER OF A SPANISH MISSION...
HOW CAN WE PRINT THIS PAPER IN SPANISH AND ENGLISH WHEN THERE IS NO "W" IN THE SPANISH ALPHABET?
WE WILL PRINT A NOTICE TO OUR READERS SAYING, "VVE MUST USE TVVO V'S!"

IN APRIL, 1859, TWO RIVAL PUBLISHERS RACED TO GET OUT THE FIRST NEWSPAPER IN DENVER, COLORADO. THE EXCITED SETTLERS PLACED BETS ON THE OUTCOME, AND A COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO JUDGE THE CONTEST RUSHED BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE TWO PRINT SHOPS TO SEE WHO WOULD BE THE WINNER. FINALLY, AFTER THREE DAYS OF HECTIC PRINT-SHOP ACTIVITY...



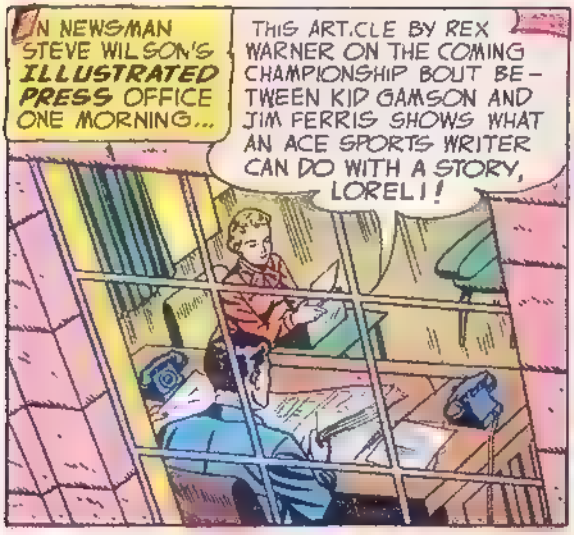
HORACE GREELEY REFERRED TO AS "THE GREATEST EDITOR AMERICAN JOURNALISM HAS EVER KNOWN"--SCHEDULED THE FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE NEW YORK POST FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1833, WHEN UNFORTUNATELY, A BLIZZARD STRUCK THE CITY. THE PAPER NEVER RECOVERED FROM ITS POOR FIRST DAY'S SALE, AND WAS DISCONTINUED AFTER THREE WEEKS...

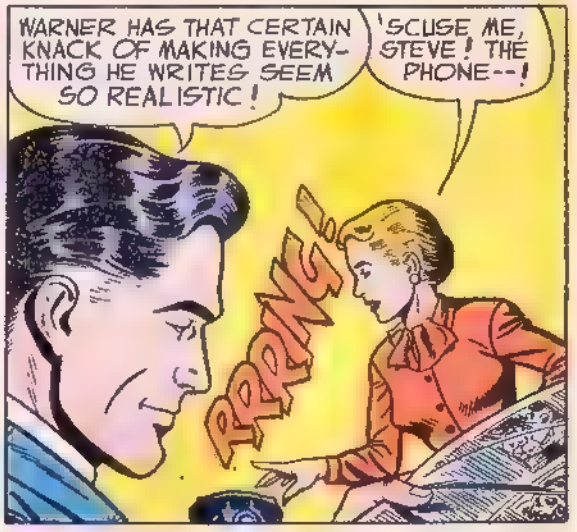
ONE OF THE LEADING SAN FRANCISCO PAPERS, THE CHRONICLE, WAS FOUNDED IN 1865 BY TWO TEEN-AGE BROTHERS WHO ORIGINALLY DISTRIBUTED IT AS A FREE THEATRE-PROGRAM SHEET, TITLED THE SAN FRANCISCO DRAMATIC CHRONICLE...



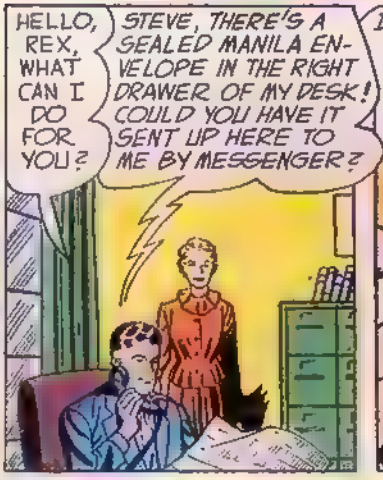
WHEN CRACK SPORTSWRITER REX WARNER WENT OUT ON AN ASSIGNMENT AND VANISHED FROM SIGHT, STEVE WILSON--ACE NEWSMAN OF *BIG TOWN'S ILLUSTRATED PRESS*--SET OUT TO FIND HIM! THE TRAIL LED TO THE BEAUTIFUL AND PEACEFUL SETTING OF A FABULOUS MOUNTAIN RESORT--WHERE THE LAST THING THE NEWSMAN EXPECTED TO ENCOUNTER WOULD BE A TORNADO OF DANGER SUDDENLY STRIKING HIM WITH VIOLENT FORCE!

THE MOUNTAIN TRAIL OF MYSTERY!


ON NEWSMAN STEVE WILSON'S ILLUSTRATED PRESS OFFICE ONE MORNING...
THIS ARTICLE BY REX WARNER ON THE COMING CHAMPIONSHIP BOUT BETWEEN KID GAMSON AND JIM FERRIS SHOWS WHAT AN ACE SPORTS WRITER CAN DO WITH A STORY, LORELI!

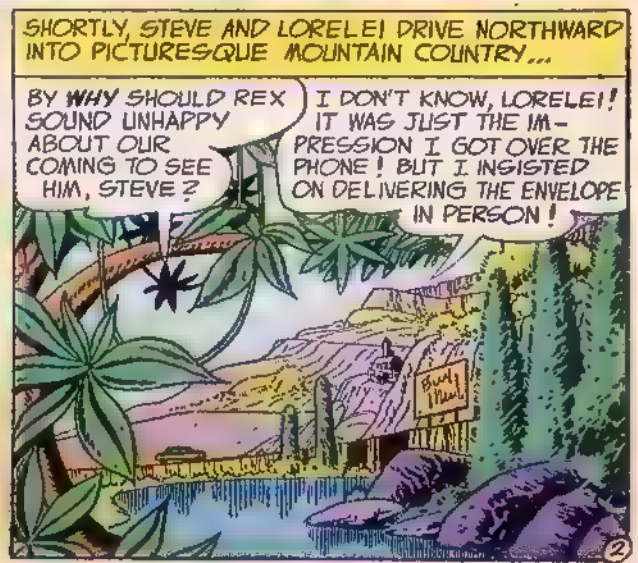

WARNER HAS THAT CERTAIN KNACK OF MAKING EVERYTHING HE WRITES SEEM SO REALISTIC!
'SCUSE ME, STEVE! THE PHONE--!
RRING!

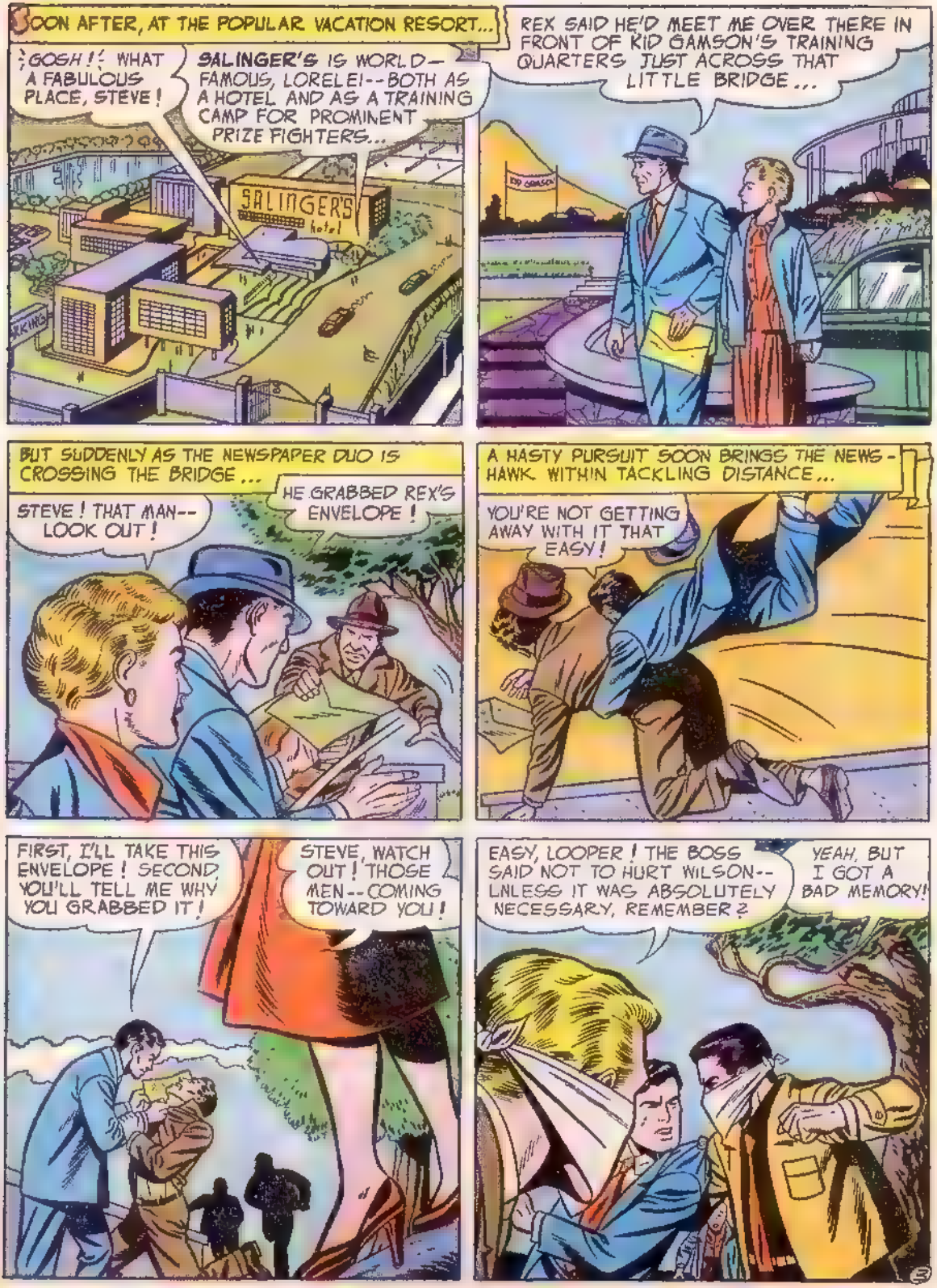
WHO? WELL, THAT IS A COINCIDENCE! WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT YOU, REX! SURE YOU CAN TALK TO STEVE--HE'S RIGHT HERE!


HELLO, REX, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
STEVE, THERE'S A SEALED MANILA ENVELOPE IN THE RIGHT DRAWER OF MY DESK! COULD YOU HAVE IT SENT UP HERE TO ME BY MESSENGER?

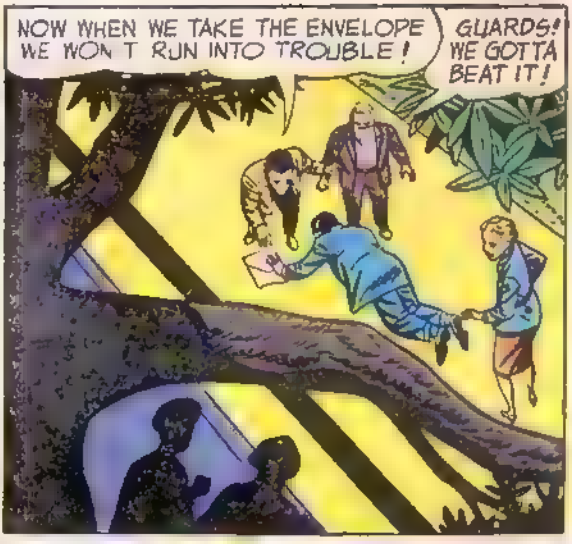
I'M AT SALINGER'S HOTEL AND IT WOULD SAVE ME A TRIP BACK TO TOWN!
HMM! TELL YOU WHAT, REX! I'LL DO EVEN BETTER THAN THAT...

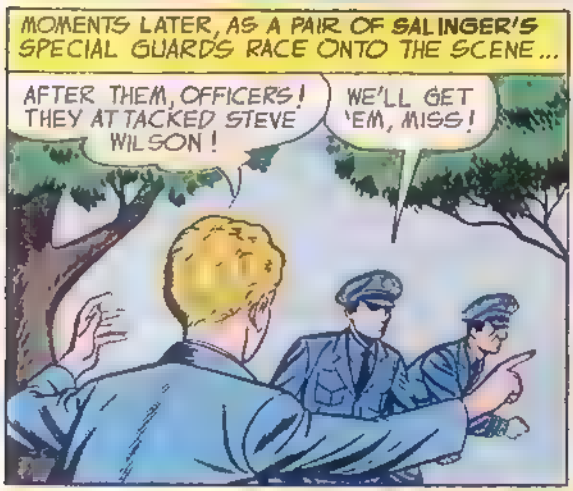
LORELEI AND I HAVE BEEN PROMISING OURSELVES A VISIT TO SALINGER'S! AND WE HAVE NO ASSIGNMENT THIS AFTERNOON! WE'LL BRING THE ENVELOPE UP TO YOU!
OH--ER--DON'T GO TO ALL THAT TROUBLE--


SHORTLY, STEVE AND LORELEI DRIVE NORTHWARD INTO PICTURESQUE MOUNTAIN COUNTRY...
BY WHY SHOULD REX SOUND UNHAPPY ABOUT OUR COMING TO SEE HIM, STEVE?
I DON'T KNOW, LORELEI! IT WAS JUST THE IMPRESSION I GOT OVER THE PHONE! BUT I INSISTED ON DELIVERING THE ENVELOPE IN PERSON!

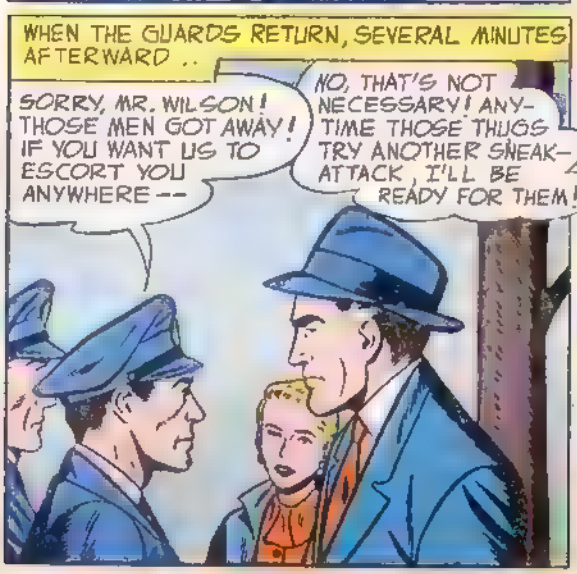

SOON AFTER, AT THE POPULAR VACATION RESORT...
GOSH! WHAT A FABULOUS PLACE, STEVE!
SALINGER'S IS WORLD-FAMOUS, LORELEI--BOTH AS A HOTEL AND AS A TRAINING CAMP FOR PROMINENT PRIZE FIGHTERS...
SALINGER'S hotel
REX SAID HE'D MEET ME OVER THERE IN FRONT OF KID GAMSON'S TRAINING QUARTERS JUST ACROSS THAT LITTLE BRIDGE...
KID GAMSON
BUT SUDDENLY AS THE NEWSPAPER DUO IS CROSSING THE BRIDGE...
STEVE! THAT MAN--LOOK OUT!
HE GRABBED REX'S ENVELOPE!
A HASTY PURSUIT SOON BRINGS THE NEWS-HAWK WITHIN TACKLING DISTANCE...
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY WITH IT THAT EASY!
FIRST, I'LL TAKE THIS ENVELOPE! SECOND YOU'LL TELL ME WHY YOU GRABBED IT!
STEVE, WATCH OUT! THOSE MEN--COMING TOWARD YOU!
EASY, LOOPER! THE BOSS SAID NOT TO HURT WILSON--UNLESS IT WAS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY, REMEMBER?
YEAH, BUT I GOT A BAD MEMORY!

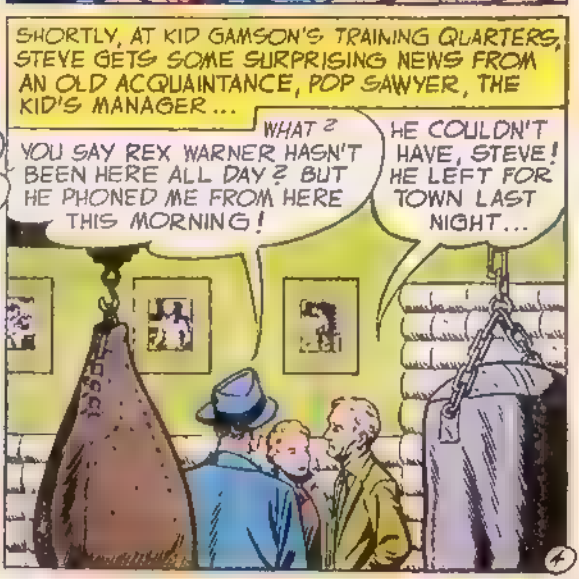
FLYING FIST FROM ONE OF THE ASSAILANTS PROPELS STEVE BACKWARD...
I'LL HANDLE WILSON MY OWN WAY!


NOW WHEN WE TAKE THE ENVELOPE WE WON'T RUN INTO TROUBLE!
GUARDS! WE GOTTA BEAT IT!

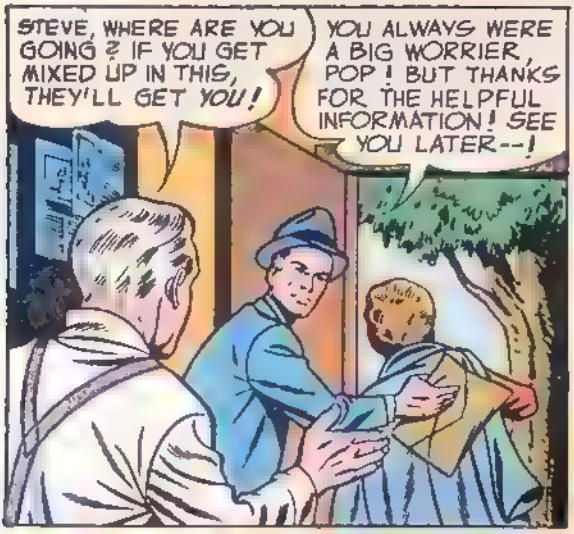

MOMENTS LATER, AS A PAIR OF SALINGER'S SPECIAL GUARDS RACE ONTO THE SCENE...
AFTER THEM, OFFICERS! THEY ATTACKED STEVE WILSON!
WE'LL GET 'EM, MISS!

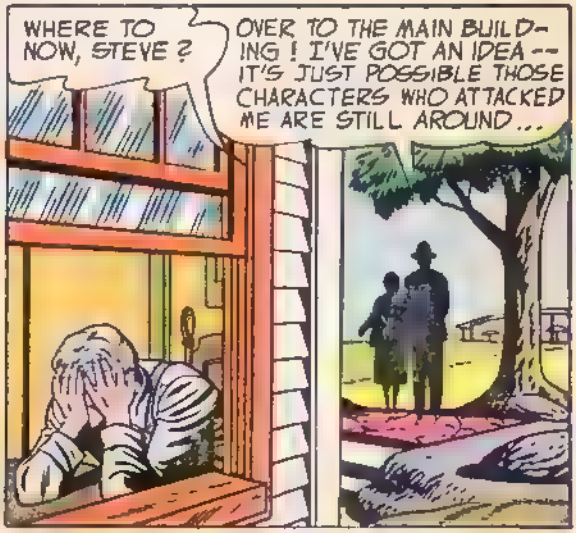
STEVE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SURE--EXCEPT I MAY FIND IT TOUGH SHAVING ON MY SORE CHIN FOR A FEW DAYS!

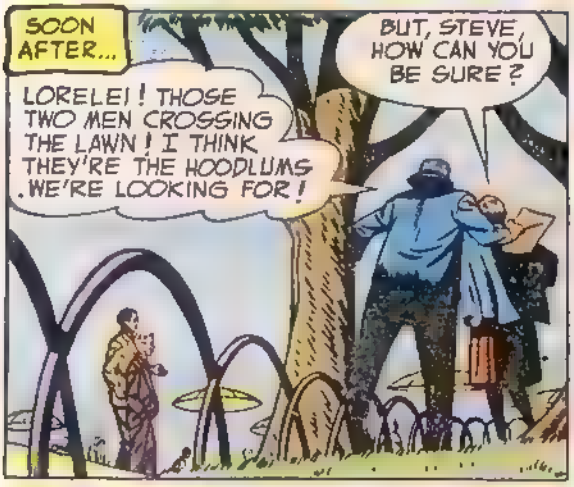

WHEN THE GUARDS RETURN, SEVERAL MINUTES AFTERWARD..
SORRY, MR. WILSON! THOSE MEN GOT AWAY! IF YOU WANT US TO ESCORT YOU ANYWHERE--
NO, THAT'S NOT NECESSARY! ANY-TIME THOSE THUGS TRY ANOTHER SNEAK-ATTACK, I'LL BE READY FOR THEM!

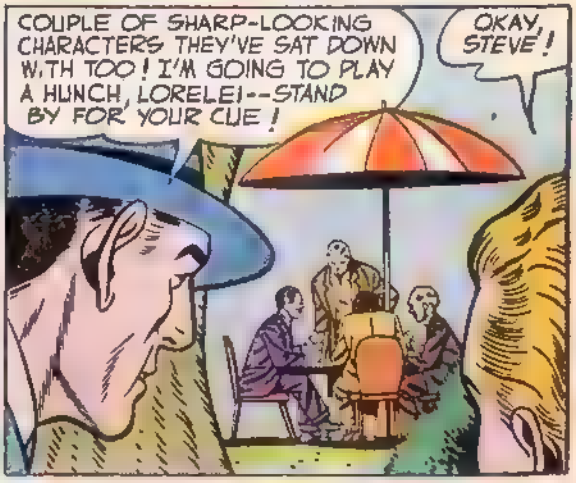

SHORTLY, AT KID GAMSON'S TRAINING QUARTERS, STEVE GETS SOME SURPRISING NEWS FROM AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE, POP SAWYER, THE KID'S MANAGER...
WHAT? YOU SAY REX WARNER HASN'T BEEN HERE ALL DAY? BUT HE PHONED ME FROM HERE THIS MORNING!
HE COULDN'T HAVE, STEVE! HE LEFT FOR TOWN LAST NIGHT...

STEVE, I'VE GOT A FEELING SOMETHING'S TERRIBLY WRONG!
SO DO I, LORELEI! BUT BEFORE WE DO ANYTHING ELSE, I'M GOING TO TAKE A LOOK INSIDE THIS ENVELOPE!
JUST SOME BOXING PICTURES OF KID GAMSON IN TRAINING!
YES, BUT WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO STEAL THEM? I CAN'T--
UH--OH! I JUST SPOTTED SOMETHING!
LOOK--THERE'S KID GAMSON IN ACTION, A NATURAL RIGHT-HAND BOXER! BUT IN THESE SHOTS HE'S FIGHTING AS A SOUTHPAW!
YES, BUT WH--WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE WHICH WAY HE FIGHTS?
MOMENTS LATER, IN THE MANAGER'S OFFICE IN THE TRAINING CAMP...
MAYBE MANAGER POP SAWYER CAN CLEAR THINGS UP! HOW ABOUT IT, POP? THESE ARE PICTURES TAKEN OF SECRET TRAINING SESSIONS WITH KID GAMSON, AREN'T THEY? PICTURES THAT REX WARNER GOT HOLD OF, RIGHT?
I KNEW SOMEONE HAD TO FIND IT OUT, AND I'M GLAD! LISTEN, STEVE, I'VE BEEN TRAINING THE BOY--IN SECRET--TO FIGHT AS A LEFTY--
BUT WHY? AGAINST THE CHAMPION'S STYLE, THE KID WOULDN'T LAST TWO ROUNDS AS A LEFTY!
I KNOW! BUT I HAD TO DO IT! THE GANG--GAMBLERS--SAID THEY'D HURT MY BOY IF I DIDN'T SEE TO IT THAT HE LOST THE FIGHT! YOU DON'T KNOW THEM--!
MAYBE I DO...!


STEVE, WHERE ARE YOU GOING? IF YOU GET MIXED UP IN THIS, THEY'LL GET YOU!
YOU ALWAYS WERE A BIG WORRIER, POP! BUT THANKS FOR THE HELPFUL INFORMATION! SEE YOU LATER--!

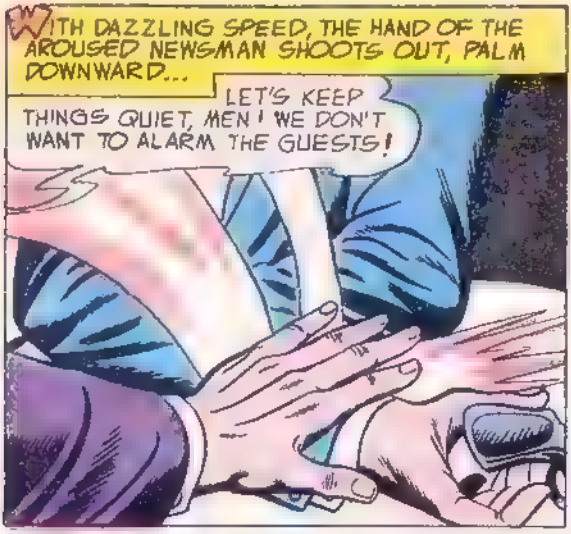

WHERE TO NOW, STEVE?
OVER TO THE MAIN BUILDING! I'VE GOT AN IDEA -- IT'S JUST POSSIBLE THOSE CHARACTERS WHO ATTACKED ME ARE STILL AROUND...


SOON AFTER...
BUT, STEVE, HOW CAN YOU BE SURE?
LORELEI! THOSE TWO MEN CROSSING THE LAWN! I THINK THEY'RE THE HOODLUMS WE'RE LOOKING FOR!


COUPLE OF SHARP-LOOKING CHARACTERS THEY'VE SAT DOWN WITH TOO! I'M GOING TO PLAY A HUNCH, LORELEI--STAND BY FOR YOUR CUE!
OKAY, STEVE!

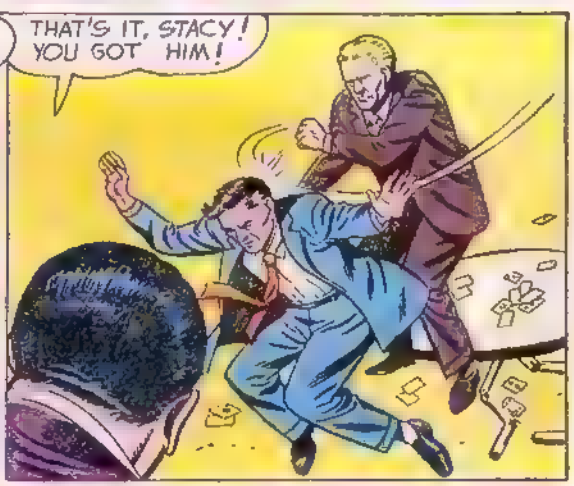
THE NEXT SECOND, A CARD GAME GETS RUDELY INTERRUPTED...
WHAT AM I BID FOR A FISTFUL OF LEFT-HANDED FIGHT PICTURES, FELLOWS?
STEVE WILSON!

WE'LL TAKE THIS-- AND WE'LL TAKE YOU TOO, WISE GUY!
A GUN! GET THE HOTEL POLICE, LORELEI--THAT'S YOUR CUE!


WITH DAZZLING SPEED, THE HAND OF THE AROUSED NEWSMAN SHOOTS OUT, PALM DOWNWARD...
LET'S KEEP THINGS QUIET, MEN! WE DON'T WANT TO ALARM THE GUESTS!

YOU TAKE HIM, LOOPER!
LOOPER? YOU'RE THE ONE THAT HIT ME ON THE BRIDGE! I WON'T FORGET THAT...

AND HERE'S SOMETHING FOR YOUR MEMORY BOOK!

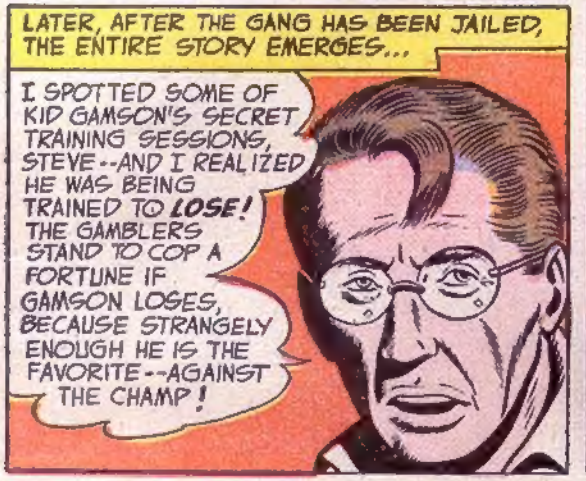

THAT'S IT, STACY! YOU GOT HIM!

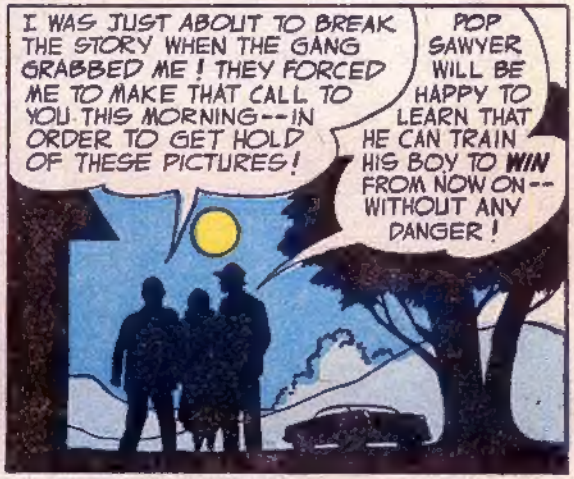
THAT CLENCHED FIST'S AIMING TO TAKE ME AWAY FOR THE FULL COUNT--

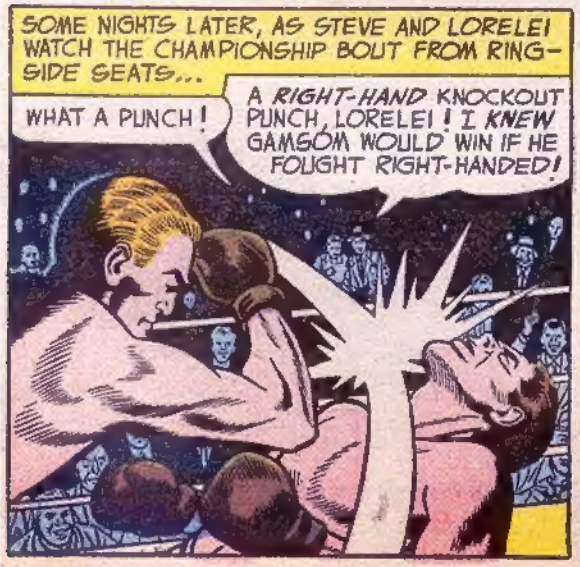
...UNLESS I GET IN A TELLING BLOW FIRST!

A MOMENT LATER...
DON'T MOVE-- ANY OF YOU! GET YOUR HANDS UP!
THE SPECIAL GUARDS! LORRY GETS AN ASSIST FOR GETTING THEM HERE ON TIME!

SHORTLY, IN A NEARBY CABIN...
OKAY, REX-- YOU'RE IN SAFE HANDS NOW!
THANKS, STEVE! BUT I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT UNTIL YOU OPENED THAT DOOR, I WOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN MUCH FOR MY CHANCES OF GETTING OUT OF THIS ALIVE!


LATER, AFTER THE GANG HAS BEEN JAILED, THE ENTIRE STORY EMERGES...
I SPOTTED SOME OF KID GAMSON'S SECRET TRAINING SESSIONS, STEVE--AND I REALIZED HE WAS BEING TRAINED TO LOSE! THE GAMBLERS STAND TO COP A FORTUNE IF GAMSON LOSES, BECAUSE STRANGELY ENOUGH HE IS THE FAVORITE--AGAINST THE CHAMP!


I WAS JUST ABOUT TO BREAK THE STORY WHEN THE GANG GRABBED ME! THEY FORCED ME TO MAKE THAT CALL TO YOU THIS MORNING--IN ORDER TO GET HOLD OF THESE PICTURES!
POP SAWYER WILL BE HAPPY TO LEARN THAT HE CAN TRAIN HIS BOY TO WIN FROM NOW ON-- WITHOUT ANY DANGER!


SOME NIGHTS LATER, AS STEVE AND LORELEI WATCH THE CHAMPIONSHIP BOUT FROM RING-SIDE SEATS...
WHAT A PUNCH!
A RIGHT-HAND KNOCKOUT PUNCH, LORELEI! I KNEW GAMSOM WOULD WIN IF HE FOUGHT RIGHT-HANDED!

...WINNER AND NEW CHAMPION!
KID GAMSON WINS--AND THE SYNDICATE GAMBLERS LOSE! WE COULDN'T ASK FOR A HAPPIER ENDING, COULD WE, LORELEI?
The End

To the Boys and Girls of America--

THIS FAMOUS SYMBOL IS YOUR

SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

GUARANTEE

OF THE *BEST* IN COMICS READING

For Example

All SUPERMAN-DC COMICS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CODE AUTHORITY!

Hi Pal!

Win $100 as I just did!

Come on, Buddy, Quit being A BAG-of-BONES Weakling like I was

IN 10 MINUTES OF FUN A DAY YOU Can do ALL I did!

I gained 25 Terrific LBS. of HANDSOME POWER-PACKED MUSCLES all over!

I improved my HE-MAN LOOKS 1000%

I won NEW STRENGTH for money-making work! for WINNING at all SPORTS!

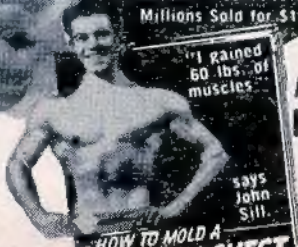
I won NEW POPULARITY Won NEW FRIENDS, BOYS & GIRLS NEW CHANCES for BUSINESS SUCCESS

BEFORE

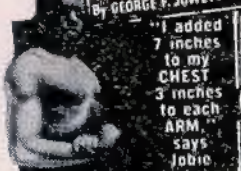
How did I do ALL This? I mailed the Coupon and got These 5 PICTURE-PACKED HE-MAN COURSES Which YOU can NOW get FREE

BEFORE $1 PRICE GOES BACK Millions Sold for $1

GET ALL 5 FREE



1 HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY CHEST By GEORGE F. JOWETT



2 HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY ARM By GEORGE F. JOWETT

3 HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY BACK By GEORGE F. JOWETT

4 HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY GRIP By GEORGE F. JOWETT

5 HOW TO MOLD MIGHTY LEGS By GEORGE F. JOWETT

"I'm PROUD to be seen with Jim NOW! Everybody admires his build," says Nellie. "Jim can lift the front of a 2700 lb. car. He amazes his friends!"

You'll be A Real ATHLETE in ALL SPORTS Soon after YOU mail Coupon.

Jim is a WINNER in ALL SPORTS NOW. YOU will be, too, soon.

COME ON, PAL, NOW YOU give me 10 PLEASANT MINUTES A DAY IN YOUR OWN HOME like Jim did and I'll give YOU A NEW HE-MAN BODY for your OLD SKELETON FRAME

YOU CAN WIN a BIG 15" SILVER CUP as I just did! with YOUR NAME engraved on it!

JIM NORMAN

AFTER He Mailed Coupon Below is Clevelond

BEFORE He Mailed Coupon

90 lb. Skeleton

He says, I gained 70 lbs. of mighty muscle

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are I'll make you OVER by the SAME method I turned myself from a wreck to the strongest of the strong. Why can't I do for you what I did for MANY THOUSANDS of skinny fellows like You?

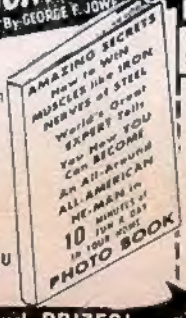
"Congratulations, John! At last you mailed the coupon as EVERY MAN should. Soon You'll be as big and strong as I am," says Jim Norman to John Luckus

Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES Gain Pounds, INCHES FAST!

YES! You'll see INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLE added to your ARMS and CHEST. Your BACK and SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels you'll gain SIZE, POWER, SPEED. You'll be A WINNER in EVERYTHING you tackle.

Mail the "ALL FREE" coupon get this "AMAZING SECRETS" Photo Book

You'll LOOK, FEEL, ACT, like A Real HE-MAN! Win Women and Men Friends Win in Sports! Win Promotion, Praise, Popularity.


AMAZING SECRETS
How to WIN MUSCLES like IRON NERVES of STEEL
World's Great EXPERT Tells You How YOU Can BECOME An All-Around ALL-AMERICAN HE-MAN in 10 MINUTES of Fun a Day in YOUR Own Home
PHOTO BOOK

This BOOK will also show You HOW YOU CAN WIN $100.00 and a BIG 15" tall SILVER TROPHY (Your Name On It)

LAST CHANCE-ALL FREE COUPON

1. FIVE COURSES 2. MUSCLE METER 3. Photo Book of STRONG MEN

Dept. NC- 55

Tell Me How To WIN $100. etc.

"Jowett Courses granted in World for Building All-Around HE MEN" — G. F. Kelles Physical Director

JOWETT INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL TRAINING 220 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

Dear George Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men and a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses: 1 How to Build a Mighty Chest. 2 How to Build a Mighty Arm. 3 How to Build a Mighty Grip. 4 How to Build a Mighty Back 5 How to Build Mighty Legs Now all in One Volume "How to become a Mighty HE-MAN." ENCLOSED FIND 10c FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING (no C.O.D.'s)

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Mail Coupon in Time for FREE offer and PRIZES!

SAVES you YEARS and DOLLARS!!!

GR-R-RRR!
JUDY and JIM DEFY SAVAGE GORILLA!
GIVEN! BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!
WE GIVE YOU CASH OR PREMIUMS!
HELP! THE GORILLA IS LOOSE!
GORILLA
STAND BACK! I'VE GOT A GUN!
GET BACK!
Wallets
Food Choppers
Carving Sets
Aluminum Ware
Blankets
Typewriters
Flashlights
Field Glasses
Wrist Watches
Footballs
LOOK! HE'S CLIMBING BACK INTO HIS CAGE!
THAT BOY AND GIRL SAVED OUR LIVES!
YOU KIDS DESERVE A MEDAL! WHERE DID YOU GET THAT "22" RIFLE AND THAT BOW AND ARROW?
WE EARNED THEM SELLING WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE!
WOW! I'M GONNA SELL SOME OF THAT SALVE TOO!
Archery Sets
Swim Fins
RANGER
ACT NOW!
WE TRUST YOU
Swim Masks
Axe & Knife Sets
Telescopes
Swim Fins
Pocket Watches
Radios, Electric Record Players (sent postage paid). Mail coupon for order and catalog to start.
Pen & Pencil Sets
Clocks
Pocket Watches
Bibles
Footballs
DON'T DELAY!
22 Calibre Rifles, 1000-Shot Daisy Air Rifles
MAIL COUPON
LOOK! LIVE PONY!
You see, a real, live Pony for your very own. Wrist Watches, Clocks — Mail coupon for SALVE and pictures to get started now!
LET'S GO!
BIG CATALOG!
ACT NOW!
WE TRUST YOU
OUR 60TH YEAR
Boys-girls Bicycles
Flashlights
Pearls
Ukuleles
Electric Deep Fryer
Wrist Watches
BE FIRST
CLOVERINE SALVE
PRICE 35¢
Wagons
Candid Cameras with Carrying Cases
SOLD BY AGENTS AND DRUG STORES EVERYWHERE
Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping
Dolls
MAIL NOW!
Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. 115 NC, Tyrone, Pa. Date
Gentlemen:- Please send me on trial 14 colorful art pictures with 14 boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 35c a box (with picture). I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with order, postage paid to start.
NAME AGE
ST. R. D. BOX
TOWN ZONE NO. STATE
PRINT LAST NAME HERE
Paste coupon on postal card or mail in envelope today
Wilson Chem. Co. Dept. 115 NC, Tyrone, Pa.
WE ARE RELIABLE!